

AUSTRALIAN OPEN TENNIS

THE GHOST WHO WALKS

Ivan Lendl's eighth Grand Slam win asserts his claim as an all-time great. But the 'Ostrava man' is haunted by that one elusive title, Wimbledon, which he looks forward to with trepidation

WHAT IS WRONG
WITH STEFFI GRAF?

Lendl with the Australian Open trophy

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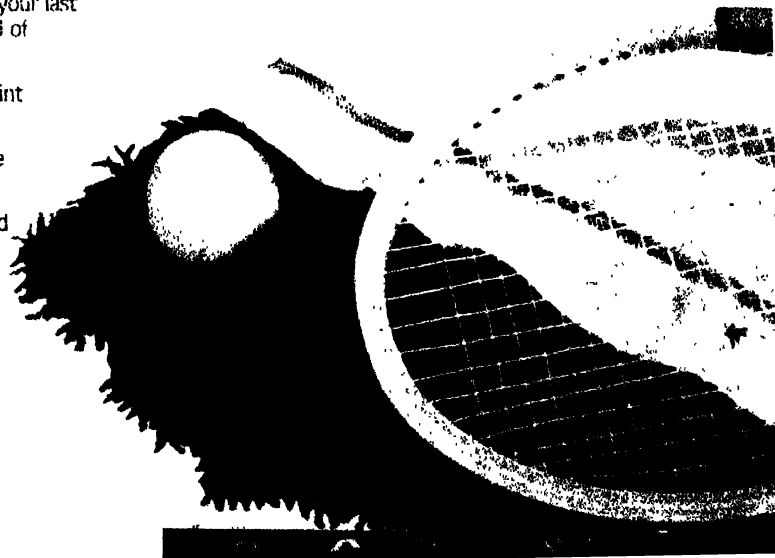
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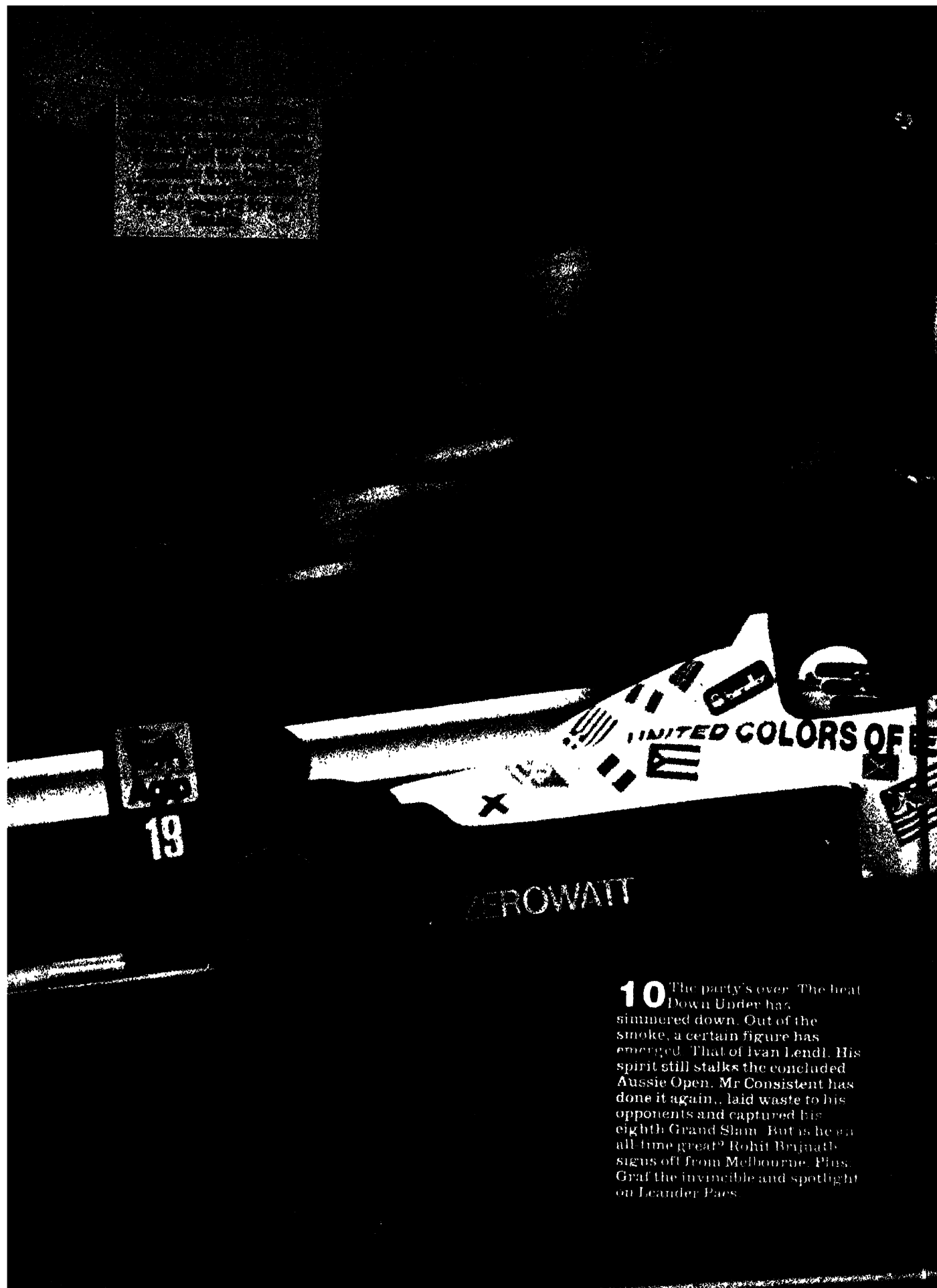
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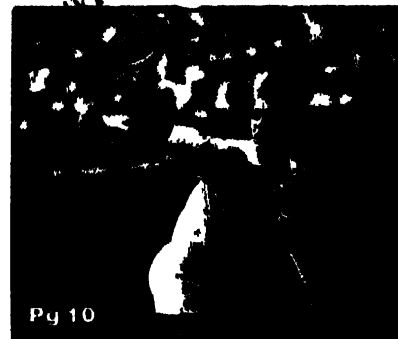
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10 The party's over. The heat Down Under has simmered down. Out of the smoke, a certain figure has emerged. That of Ivan Lendl. His spirit still stalks the concluded Aussie Open. Mr Consistent has done it again, laid waste to his opponents and captured his eighth Grand Slam. But is he an all-time great? Rohit Brijnath signs off from Melbourne. Plus, Graf the invincible and spotlight on Leander Paes.

Sports world

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58 The blood, sweat and tears were there. The joy too. The drama was being enacted in Auckland. The script was real life. Athletes from the Commonwealth had converged in a spirit of camaraderie and brotherhood. While some went home smiling, others didn't. Ashok Kamath tells us in on the rest.

76 Wanna take a look at the future of football? Wanna know how soccer in the Nineties is gonna be? Will there be more violence or will the game produce more 'characters'? Can magicians like Gullit and Maradona raise the game to new heights using their magic? Brian Granville asks you to look into the crystal (foot)ball.



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THE FORCE IS



The other day Graf practised with Becker and left him shaking his head in admiration... "It was like playing with some guys," he said

predictable indeed. Certainly the number of 6-0, 6-0 matches seem to make that point. Perhaps the lesser importance of service in the women's game is the real reason for this: a 6-4, 6-4 win for a top man over a player ranked 98 is unlikely to be any closer than one of Graf's perfect scores.

It is tempting to speculate on the difference between the male and female psyches: different degrees of acceptance of psychological domination, and so on. But as Sherlock Holmes said, it is a capital error to theorize with data.

It is still true that, for whatever reason, Steffi Graf dominates women's tennis to a greater extent than any of the recent male number ones have dominated their own sport. Before her, the same thing could have been said of Martina Navratilova.

Domination is the keynote of Graf's perceived character. She has not let many other sides to her nature show, after all. She concentrates. She doesn't scream and yell. She just hits tennis balls, and they don't often come back.

In press conferences she laughs a little, and she has the most radiant smile, all the more so for being unexpected. In fact, she could play the role of the pretty media darling as well as any of them if she chose, but she prefers to hide those rather fine blue eyes behind a girlish haircut. Her choice, it seems, is just to play tennis matches and to win.

Tennis is, more obviously than most other sports, a battle for psychological domination. In a tight match, you can almost see The Force move from one player to another and back again. Players establish domination over each

other in the course of a season or in the course of a career.

The best players establish a psychological domination of the entire tennis world that is when tennis tends very much to go with form, and why good upsets are rare enough to be savoured so greedily. The computer rankings enhance all that.

If men's tennis is predictable, it seems that women's tennis is very

WITH STEFFI

**She concentrates.
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virtually all of them

The other day Graf practised with Boris Becker and left him shaking his head in admiration. They hit about for 25 minutes. "It was like playing with some guys for an hour or so," he said later. "She hits it quite intense. Thank God I have a serve, so I'll be all right!"

The intensity of her practice sessions is famous in the game. There are plenty who are sloppy in practice and who believe they are really practising intensely, and there are the intense ones who are really only practising for the sake of it, training to train rather than training to win. But there are some sports people whose practice sessions awe their fellow pros.

Graf is in this company. She goes for every ball. She is a marvel of intensity, a phenomenon of total psychological domination.

One wonders how much longer it can last. She remains as straightforward and as modest as she was as a teenage prodigy. How much else of her remains unchanged? Will she break out? Will she get fed up with it?

Her dominance of the game is the fruit of her relationship with her father. Will there come a time when she no longer wishes to travel along that road? Whether such a decision would make her happier, I cannot say, but one certainty is that an entire generation of tennis players would cheer up no end.

Simon Barnes





COVER STORY

THE GHOST WHO WALKS

Ivan Lendl's eighth Grand Slam win asserts his claim as an all-time great. But the 'Ostrava Ghost' is haunted by that one elusive title

... Wimbledon ... which he looks forward to with confidence

THE

Australians, or should I specify Melbournians, are a warm, relaxed people. Beer drinkers and clothes shedders maybe. But beneath that informality lies a great sporting instinct and love for any athletic pursuit.

Unlike Wimbledon, and in positive sense here, they are not greatly impressed with tradition and discipline, instead preferring spontaneity and good humour. Which is why all champions here are not just sent off with a trophy, a few muttered thanks and a pat on the back. They are always honoured with something distinctly Australian. Last year it was the koala bear, that beautiful

FROM MONT BILMATH
MELBOURNE

little national treasure. This year, it was the akurba, more easily explained as a sort of bushman's hat. It is a token of their respect, a memory of the National Tennis Centre and its vibrant crowd, a memory that a champion may like to recall, to indulge his grandchildren many years from now.

In this long context, it has been terribly disheartening for them to be forced to witness the most anti-climatic end to a Grand Slam tournament in the past God knows how many years. The ladies final stuttered, hummed and hawed, like a young girl being introduced to her tyrannical mother-in-law. Simply, a disaster. Miss Graf, so strangely ordinary that it almost boggled the mind. The men's final, promising much with both Lendl's and Edberg's inspired form, was further frustrating, for let alone a

Lendl has always been considered the model of consistency

TOMMY HINDLEY



From perpetual runner-up to established champion...Ivan

THE best measure of Ivan Lendl's quest to affirm his status as the world's leading player is evident from the fact that he is willing to sacrifice one of his dreams (winning a Grand Slam, or four titles in a singles year) in order to attain the other—a Wimbledon singles title.

When Lendl won the Australian Open crown last year, he admitted that it was just the incentive he needed to spur him on to the other three major titles within the same year. But that dream was cruelly snatched from him by an improbable script. In January last year, no one could have foreseen that a 17-year-old Chinese American would beat Stefan Edberg in the semi-finals at Paris and then upset Lendl in the final. But Michael Chang's amazing triumph at the French Open was more than a historic victory against the odds; it also destroyed Lendl's dream of a Grand Slam.

Never again, it seems, will Lendl have the opportunity to snare a Grand Slam again. He has made it known that he will not be playing the French Open this year, for he wants to concentrate all his energy on preparing for Wimbledon, the one title he covets more than anything else in the world of tennis.

In 1989 alone, Lendl won ten singles titles and regained the world-number one ranking he had lost to Mats Wilander when the Swede beat him in the final of the 1988 US Open. Any other professional tennis player would have been proud of such a year, but Lendl, ever the perfectionist, was not happy. "I would gladly give up all my titles," he told amazed journalists, "just to be able to win Wimbledon once."

Lendl first took the world's top ranking in February 1988,

but lost that spot to John McEnroe and finished the year at number two. In 1984, with McEnroe seemingly indestructible, Lendl finished the year at number three. However, in 1988, the Lendl legend really took root. It was the vindication of his faith in the methods of former Australian star Tony Roche. Early in the '80s, Lendl had appointed Roche as his coach and the Australian placed new emphasis on physical conditioning, while making technical adjustments to the Czech's game. Out of the chrysalis of talent and dedication, a champion was emerging.

Lendl had overthrown the shadow of the tempestuous McEnroe, while casting off the earlier stigma that he would never be able to beat a firebrand named Jimmy Connors. Now, firmly entrenched as the world's leading player, he sought to carve his name in the same class as the very best in the game.

Connors had kept the number one spot for 159 consecutive weeks—more than three years, but Lendl aimed to break that record. However, with three weeks remaining to equal the Connors record, Lendl was beaten in the final of the 1988 US Open by Mats Wilander. Wilander replaced him as world number one, but the Swede, who finished that year with three of the four major titles (Australian, French and US) was destined to fade as spectacularly as he had blossomed. Wilander was beaten by the unseeded Ramesh Krishnan in the second round of the 1989 Australian Open. To rub salt in the wound, he was beaten by Andrei Chesnokov in the quarters of the French Open and by young Pete Sampras in the second round of the US Open. He reached only one final, at Boston, in the course of the

year, but was beaten by Andrei Gomes.

Even as Wilander finished 1988 ranked twelfth in the world, Lendl recaptured the top spot and gave ample notice that he intended to stay. After a disappointing year in 1988, when he won only three titles,



Lendl finished 1989 with ten titles. His total haul now stands at 84 titles, including the 1990 Australian Open. He is still behind the veteran Connors in this respect, for the American, at the time of going to press, has 109 titles under his belt.

Lendl has come a long way

But Lendl's winnings have topped the \$15 million mark, making him the richest player in the game's history. This was the man the critics once derided as a choker, a man who did not possess the fortitude to come out of a crisis in a big match. It was a tag that Lendl



brought on himself, for he lost six of the first seven major finals he played. Those early horror days still haunt Lendl, who seemed doomed to become a perpetual runner-up. He was beaten in the finals of the 1981 French, the 1983 US, the 1983

Australian and US, the 1984 US and the 1985 French.

His only major victory came in 1984, when he stopped John McEnroe in the final of the French Open, winning a tense match 3-6, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5. The six losses in those seven finals were to spur Lendl onto greater heights. In 1985, transformed from a dour baseliner into an all-court player, Lendl went on to win the US Open.

It was as if that one victory snapped a mental barrier. Lendl began to look unstoppable. He did not play the Australian Open in 1986, but won the French and US and was a runner-up to Boris Becker at Wimbledon. In 1987, he won the French and US again, lost in the semis of the Australian and was runner-up again at Wimbledon, this time to Pat Cash. In 1988, he won none of the majors, though he reached the semi-final of Wimbledon and was runner-up at the US. In 1989, he won the Australian Open for the first time, but was beaten by Chang at the French in the fourth round, lost in the semi-final of Wimbledon to Becker, and was runner up at the US, beaten by the German once more.

It was a pattern of consistency that had marked only the game's greatest champions. Not since 1981 has Lendl lost earlier than the fourth round of any major championship. Apart from the fact that he has won eight major titles (two Australian Opens, three French and three US), Lendl also has two of the longest winning streaks since tennis opened its doors to professionals in 1968. He was unbeaten in 44 consecutive matches between 1981-2, and 66 indoor matches between 1981 and 1983.

All-time great? Maybe not yet. But surely on his way!

David McNamee, Melbourne

mismatch there was none at all. And yet, to the eternal credit of the 15,000 present, the cheering decibel level never faltered. Perhaps Steffi Graf, a great admirer of the Aussies, realised their disappointment, and in an impromptu effort to make up, squeaked, with one eye on Joan Antonio Samaranch: "I hope you (Melbourne), get the Olympic Games." A reference to the city's solid bid for the 1996 Games.

In quite another sense these same people perhaps not having realised it yet, have been witness to what could certainly one day be included in the musty pages of tennis history books. The gradual return of Lendl to championship form and the connection between Australia and the attainment of Lendl's greatest desire—winning Wimbledon. And also the stunning reversal of form that Steffi Graf must now contend with.

But first to Ivan.

The casual viewer, or even a confessed tennis fanatic would find nothing unusual about Lendl's presence in the final, nor his stunning powerful baseline play. Why, they would sneer, he's been doing that for the last five years. Well, actually, not really.

Ivan Lendl has always been considered the model of consistency. Within reason. For unlike a Becker, a Wilander, a McEnroe (now) or an Edberg, his standards are impeccably high, his levels of erraticity low—his game is not easily tampered with. Thus, he is rarely, very rarely, beaten in early rounds. For example, from 1982 through to 1989, that is eight years, he has never lost before the fourth round of a Grand Slam. No other current player can claim such a record. His 156 straight weeks as world no. 1 till he lost it and then regained it, is also testimony to this ability to sustain his form. None of this can be argued. No question.

But Lendl is also a winner. A winner of the big ones. And in that context, in that respect, he has been slightly less successful. In the years 1984-85-86-87, Lendl won 6 Grand Slam titles. In the

THE PRESSURES OF BEING NO. 1

"I'd rather win than play perfect and lose"

SAYS IVAN LENDI, THE ULTIMATE REALIST

THE instant Stefan Edberg floated into the press room at this year's Aussie Open, Mats Wilander's scalp in hand, phrases like "perfect play" were thrown around. Edberg, demure as always, did not argue for once... hell, his first serve's efficacy and net coverage had been terrific. As Leander Paes whispered to me during the match, "He's not really such a colourful player, but he's so correct". And yes, Stefan is methodical... he goes about his game like a diligent carpetlayer... going through the basics, getting everything in place, and once in a while coming up with something really special.

Ivan Lendi (ovich) is less impressed with perfection. He is no idealist, no Molnar in search of the perfect shot, he's the ultimate realist. "I don't think it matters (how close I was to perfection). What matters is I won. It's better if you win and play perfect, but I'd rather win anytime than play perfect and lose".

The one (and perhaps only) subject of much argument at the Open, was Becker's challenge for the number one spot. Winning the Open would have brought him closer at least, but his impromptu exit put that possibility off for a few months. Was Lendi relieved?

"I don't really pay any attention to it. They talked two summers ago—two American summers ago—about Edberg taking over, then Mats took over and then they were talking about Boris taking over, and they're talking all the time, and I've just wanted to have many more years than I do."

Garrulous and constantly amusing at press conferences, in direct contrast to the unsmiling poker-faced image that he leaves on court, Lendi had to fend off queries on his Grand Slam chances.

Dismissing it first as only a reality in women's tennis, and emphasizing the difficulty of adapting to different surfaces, acknowledging the higher competition levels, Lendi stressed briefly on the luck factor. On how just 2 or 3 points through the year can make the difference "Take Mats in 1988, and I'm not taking anything away from him, so don't get me wrong. At the Australian he beat Cash 8-6 in the 5th set, at the French Zivojinovic was serving for the match, and the US Open (5 sets with him) it was very close.

"Or take Boris last year. At Wimbledon I was a break up in the fourth set with my advantage for 4-2, he was match point down in the US Open (to Derrick Rostagno) and he hit a net cord winner. I've had my share of luck too. And you would have to be quite lucky, so it's possible, but I'm not betting my house that anyone will do the Grand slam in the next 10 years."

Becker is feeling the pressure of expectations, at merely being the challenger for it: "It's tough. After the Davis Cup Final (and a great 1989) I am more or less on top of the tennis world and 3 weeks later you have to start from scratch again and prove it again every day and I guess it's more difficult if you win".

Perhaps all this will give him a greater understanding of Ivan Lendi.

years 1988-1989, he won only one. In the years 1981-82-83-84-85-86-87 he won five Masters. In 1988-89, he won none. Nothing to get unduly excited about, but nevertheless a sign, an indication, of his gradual decline (he will be 30 in two months) and the increased demands the competition was making?

Thus, the Australian Open was important. The No. 1 argument was over. It was boring, repetitive and Lendi was not amused by questions on it. But could he win?

The early rounds demonstrated that, despite preparation, lesser players were being able to make gradual inroads into his game. No one really troubled him, but that he himself was uncomfortable. That majestic air he used to cloak himself with was a little moth eaten. It was apparent again in the two sets against Edberg in the final. Two years ago, I would have wagered my salary that Edberg would fall fast and hard. But now it wasn't so simple anymore.

But he won, and that's what counts. And Lendi's relief was quite tangible. I had a job to do and I've done it. He had lost the US Open final to Becker, let go a Wimbledon semi-final to Becker again, and been embarrassed by Chang in the fourth round of the French. The Australian win could not have come too soon. It was a reaffirmation of sorts. The champion has returned to doing what he enjoys best. Dominating. It will be a small boost, a positive prod, in his search for his elusive prize.

THERE is a mansion in Greenwich, Connecticut, a 1920s mansion I am told. A wall encompasses a 7-acre estate, complete with a tennis court (US Open Deco II surface), a swimming pool, four cars and some German Shepherd dogs. Inside live Ivan Lendi, and his wife Samantha. A rather well-to-do couple one could say who are indeed awaiting the birth of their first child, a daughter, by the summer. The man, Ivan Lendi, is also awaiting something else.

this summer—a Wimbledon title, something he has coveted like nothing before. When he wakes up in the morning and sees his eight Grand Slam trophies Ivan Lendl is, perhaps, not always content. He knows one is missing.

And everything he will do and has done this year is part of a plan to win Wimbledon.

That Lendl is skipping the French Open to practice on grass is old news. Even he is amused by it. Reporters keep harping on it,

sometimes I think in disbelief. Lendl, a real Press Room jester, forced for an answer, threw this one, "No, now I've decided I'm going to play the French and skip Wimbledon!" Beneath the jocular, for all to

see, is a terrific purpose. Who knows if he will win, but the man will do his damndest best to make sure he has gone through the best possible preparation, sacrificing much for that, to at least know that he had given it his best shot. As Becker once said, "If he has been in the finals twice, and the semi finals so many times, it means that he can win it."

In mid-April Lendl returns to Australia to coach Tony Roche's home for some grass court

practice. He then goes to New Zealand where he is attempting to finalise some exhibitions on grass, with Pat Cash and Kelly Evernden. Meanwhile he will also undergo strenuous practices with Christo Van Rensburg.

When someone asked Lendl if his preparation for Wimbledon 1991 will be the same if he lost in an early round, the Czech answered, "I don't really know. I would like to think so, but just that's difficult to say".

Does he want to win it because it is Wimbledon or because he hasn't won it? "Both".

Does he need to win it so that he will be acknowledged as a great, an all-rounder player? "No, I'm not interested in that".

He wants to win it because he knows he can. I think he can. It is fascinating, because one cannot remember a player with such a single-minded pursuit ever before. The champion is hot... this summer we will find out, how hot.



Edberg's injury made this Open most anti-climatic

TOMMY HENRIKSEN

David McMahon watched Steffi Graf demolish her opposition at the Australian Open and still feels the West German tennis machine has slipped a gear or two

TOMMY HINDLEY



DESCENDING GRAF?

MISS Steffi Graf from Brühl, whom the Australians would all too readily adopt, will not have to wait for Wimbledon. If she does not pull up her sagging socks by the French Open—her least favourite surface too—Monica Seles, Gabriela Sabatini, Arantxa Sanchez are going to have her for dinner, wine and croissants included. For, by her spectacular standards, Miss Graf was dismal.

Let me use a simple analogy to explain this: if Miss Graf were a student, she would be the one always graduating with 90%, the rest perhaps at 60%. What has happened now is that while she still remains ahead, her level has fallen to 80%, while the rest have lifted themselves to 70%. The gap has distinctly narrowed.

And there seems, on the face of it, no discernible reason for it.

One explanation inadvertently came from American girl Patty Fendick who, in fact, was trying more to explain the rising standard in women's tennis. "Steffi's dominance and superiority has actually lifted the level of our games, of women's tennis. To compete with her, she made us get better. I guess that's a sign of a great champion."

The offshoot of that is also that Steffi's game has correspondingly deteriorated, by not being challenged and forced to deal with what was at least really insignificant competition. The girls move up one step, as Steffi goes down a step.

Graf moved into the world number one slot in August 1987, shortly after she had beaten Martina Navratilova for the Wimbledon title. Since then, there has been no serious threat to her supremacy, although Navratilova has two burning ambitions: a) to

Is Graf's game being affected by her bloated look?

beat Graf and b) to win one more Wimbledon title.

It threatens to become an all-consuming ambition. One of the more poignant moments of

last year's Australian Open came after Navratilova had been upset by Helena Sukova in the semi-finals. Denied her chance to meet (and, she hoped, beat) Graf in

TOMMY HINDLEY



the final, Navratilova was distinctly wistful at her post-match Press Conference. "Oh, God," she cried, in supplication as opposed to blasphemy, "It's going to be so long till I play her again. If only I could have one more chance."

Eight months later, when they met in the final of the 1989 US Open final, Navratilova looked set to pull off the victory she so yearned for. Having taken the first set against Graf, Navratilova led 4-2 in the second, only to see the match and the title slip away from her grasp.

The German girl's career graphs has been awesome since 1987. Although she did not play the Australian Open that year, she has reached every Grand Slam singles final—and there have been 12 of them—since then. That year, she won the French Open but was beaten in the finals of Wimbledon and the US Open. Thereafter, she has lost only one major final—the 1989 French Open—while taking her tally of Grand Slam singles titles to nine.

At the Australian Open this year, Graf had a practice session with Becker, who then told the Press that she was as good an opponent as some of the men. It is a subject Graf abhors, and when journalists attempted to take the line of questioning further, Graf showed a flash of anger. For one brief moment, it looked as though she were going to storm out of her Press Conference. Then she regained her composure and faced the microphone once more. It was a good sign. It only served to remind us that this phenomenally talented player, this setter of standards, this successor of Navratilova, is human after all.

One sign would have been quite enough, but there were more. Right through the entire tournament, Graf kept emphasizing her humanness, and fallibility by performing below par. The forehand and blistering first serve continued to get her

Even at 80%, Graf was good enough to lift the Australian Open trophy this year



The forehand still gets her cheap points but...

There is one factor though, much discussed seriously in the Press Room, something were it not so confusing, would have readily been consigned to some filthy tabloid's front page. We are speaking of Graf's bosom, and the fact that it is obviously much fuller. At the Press Room, reasons from her taking the pill to having her period or some metabolic problem were offered as explanation. This factor, said a West German journalist, is not new, and appears to discomfort her. Her movement and fluency it seems like a joke in poor taste, but I can assure you it isn't. Perhaps, too, the motivation requires a recharge, as does the inspiration.

If girls like Carrie Cunningham and Patty Fendick can give her trouble like they did, her real competition (Seles, Sabatini, Sanchez, Navratilova) will go further and beat her. Which, of course, is easy to say, even though Graf has constantly managed to raise her game when the situation demands. This time though it looks a tougher task than before. Coach Pavel Slozil made an interesting statement to an Aussie journalist in the winter, and perhaps even he could not have foreseen how correct he was. "If somebody comes along and overpowers her, then maybe she has to go to the gym and work with weights, like Lendl did because he wasn't strong enough for Boris. They (the rest) are physically very strong and hitting the ball very hard from both sides and the time will come sooner or later—I think probably five years from now." I think probably in less than five years.

Thus, the French Open is being awaited with greater interest than before. The greatest ladies tennis player of all time is facing her career's biggest challenge. She has always responded brilliantly to the occasion.

This time it is not simply a question of winning. But at her own terms and in her own marvellous style.

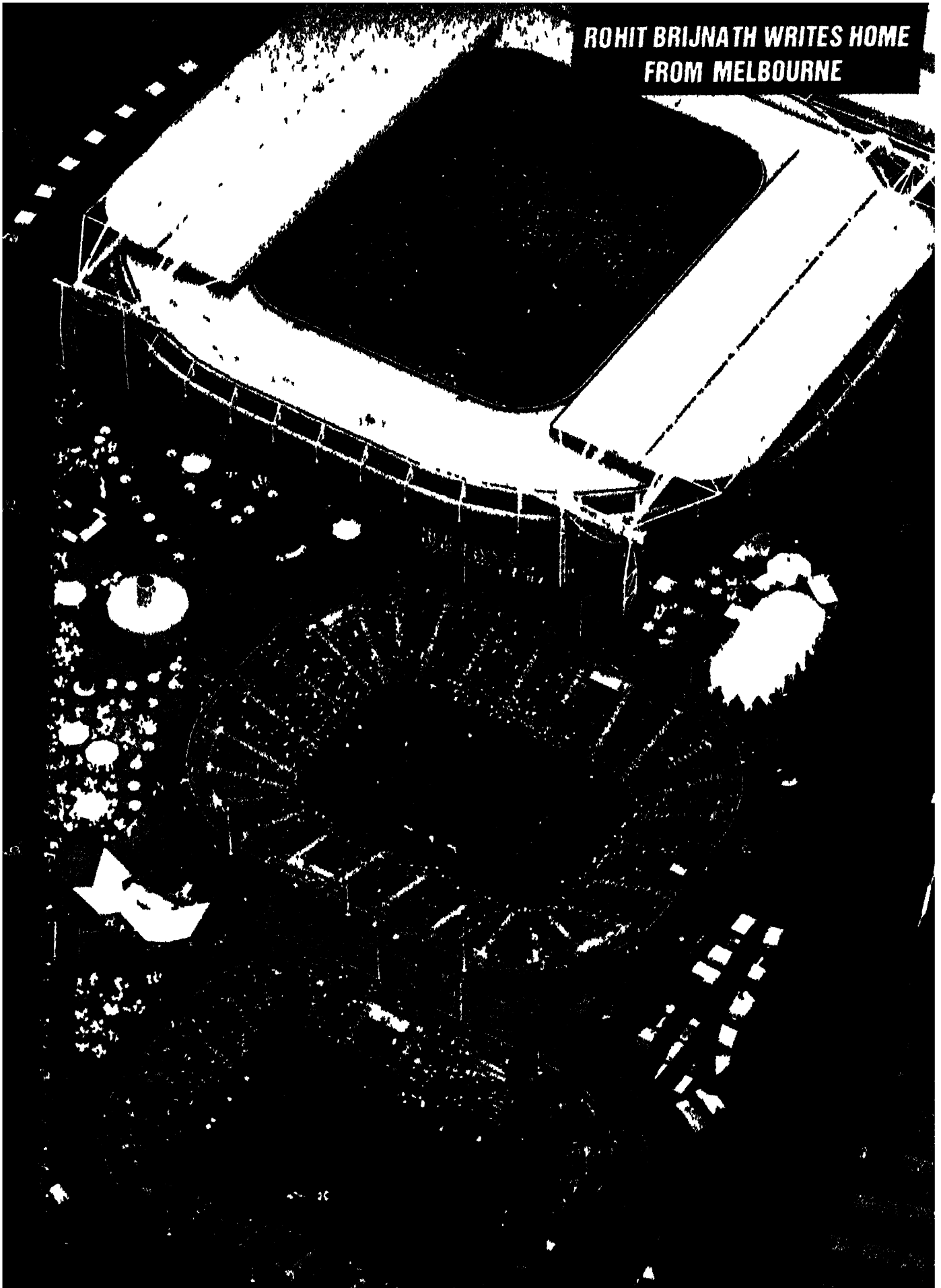
cheap points but equally so were the cheap points she gave away through unnecessary error. The forehand was like a reluctant bee, stinging when in the mood. The backhand slice had a fluctuating rhythm. Her concentration appeared to slip away from her too often, too fast. And there was a ever so slight retardation of court movement.

In one aspect, all this is ridiculous. I mean Steffi has just won her ninth Grand Slam title, has completed a record 47-match

streak, has lost but one set in this tournament, has compiled a 236-7 match record since January 1, 1987, yet people are still saying something is wrong. It's indicative of her own stratospheric standards and of what our expectations are of her.

The Open, being the first tournament of the year, after a restful winter could serve as a possible explanation. Graf herself, was not too enamoured by her play, but won despite that, and was happy for that.

**ROHIT BRIJNATH WRITES HOME
FROM MELBOURNE**



Where have all the youngsters gone?

ONE of the Open's tragedies, or more so one of tennis' tragedies, is the startling absence of any unusually gifted youngsters. It's not that they aren't there, it's just that there aren't any. Agassi and Chang, despite their precocious

those mentioned above, or Sergei Bruguera of Alberto Mancini or Thomas Muster (yet) are so enviously or threateningly good.

But if tennis, and its ability to throw up greats from nowhere, runs in cycles, we are due one any moment.

Work and play

REMEMBER, the ball girls, boys, court staff, programme sellers doing aerobics at 8.30



achievements have yet to dominate—agreed they have time. So do Jim Courier, David Wheaton and Pete Sampras, all young Yankee boys, no lesser talents for sure, but yet to make a strong claim for the Top 10.

If you take a quick glance at the ten best in tennis—Becker, Lendl, Edberg, Wilander, Mayotte, McEnroe, Connors, Mecir, Noah, Leconte—most have been around for some time. In the past five years since Becker arrived, no outrageously talented youngster has emerged. None of the new breed,

There is indeed a method in their madness.

They believe players are not the only ones who require getting fired up. There is a serious psychological strategy, an exercise in positive thinking, where they plastered a different motivational slogan on the wall everyday. These ranged from "I am a winner", "I am at peace with myself", "I am a living legend" to "I am patient and sincere" and "I am cool, calm and

IF they exhume Centre Court some centuries from now they may find some remaining pieces of the Frenchman. For Noah disintegrated under Lendl's barrage... This Lendl I do not like so much he said.

collected." But the prize must go to

"I have the legs of Yannick
The smile of Mats
The skill of Ivan
And the looks of Stefan"

It is truly a wonderful example of young people, thinking about their work and enjoying it.

Becker's Aussie jinx

NOT so 'enjoying' as some would say, was Boris Becker. The young German was truly unlucky at this Open. He appeared to have wrestled his jinx to the ground, in his match against Mecir, but the effort drained him physically and mentally for his confrontation with Wilander.

Mecir, poor fellow, was dismissed by all as a bloody fool, actually more as an exasperating genius. For two sets Boris chased dreams the Czech possessing this uncanny ability to make talent appear mediocre. But Mecir is plagued almost by self-doubt—tying the world's best player in perfect knots, putting chains on his feet, taking him to the river but unable to push him in. And Boris Becker was all too eager to do his Houdini act. Mecir lost it. Becker did not win it.

Against Wilander, Becker tied himself up. His serve in hiding, the heat affecting his movement, the wind altering the direction of his precision drives, Becker throughout was visibly battling more

with himself than his opponent. His frustration, his despair, his disgust at an absence of rhythm, was terribly evocative, terribly saddening.

Lendl missiles sink Noah's arc

There was a celebration of sorts, Australia Day I believe, on the day of the men's semi final. Cannons were being fired close by, though Noah will be excused for thinking that was the sound of Lendl hitting forehand passing shots.

If they exhume Centre Court a century from now, they may find some remaining pieces of the Frenchman. For he disintegrated under Lendl's barrage...so fiercely did the Czech-American hit the ball, that the super black athlete hadn't bent his knees for the volley when the umpire called the score.

When the skeleton of Noah clanked into the press room at least the humour had not been buried. When asked the difference between Lendl at the Open and Lendl who he beat at Sydney a fortnight ago, he said: "I like that Lendl, he was missing forehands and not making returns. This Lendl, I do not like him so much".

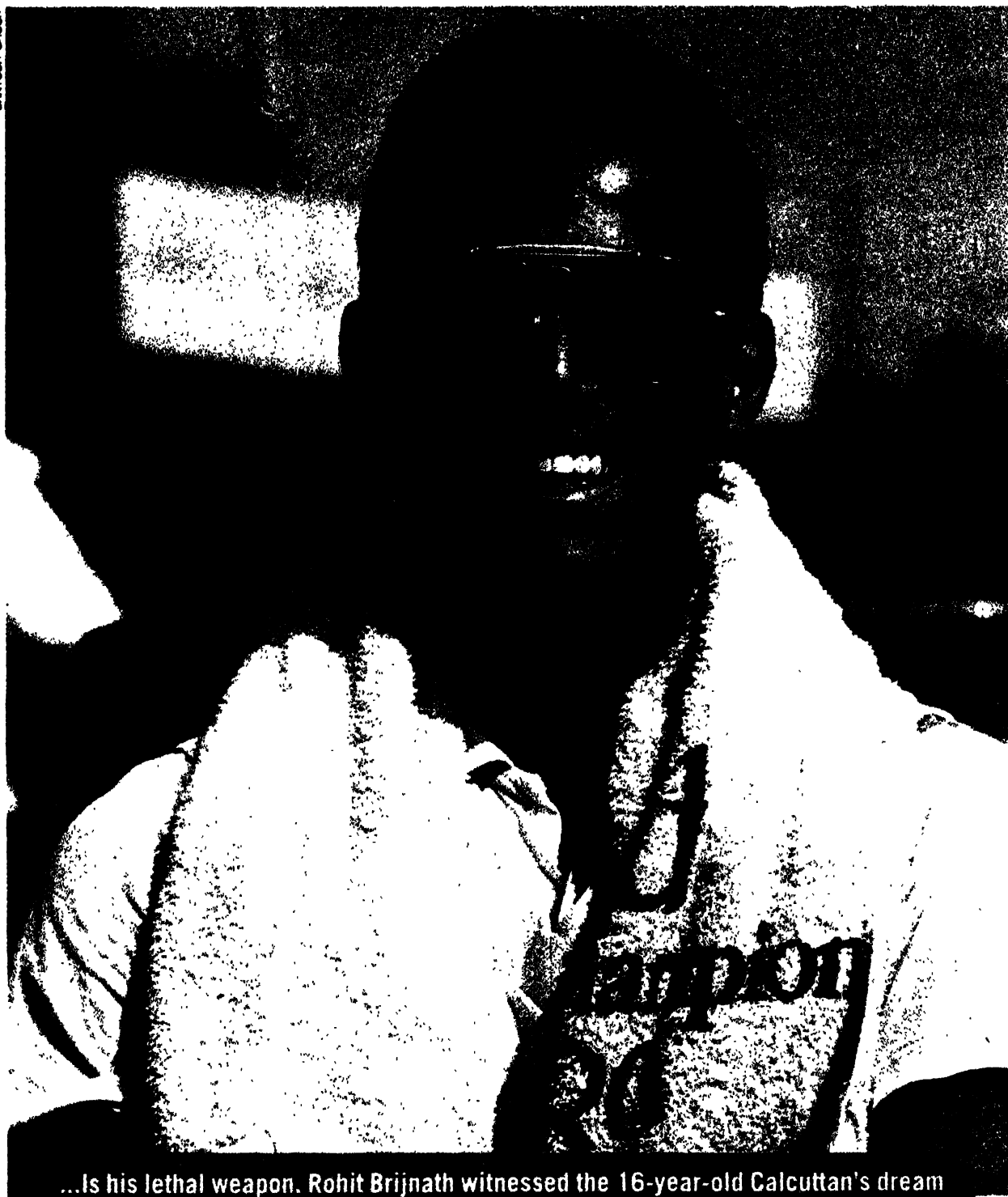


SPOTLIGHT

LEANDER PAES

TRUE GRIT!

SANTOSH GHOSH



...Is his lethal weapon. Rohit Brijnath witnessed the 16-year-old Calcuttan's dream run in the Australian Open Boys' Championships which culminated with the runners up spot.

THEY came from all over Alistair McDonald and Joshua Eagle from Australia, Jan Kodes from Czechoslovakia, Sasha Petrashchik from West Germany, Sasa Hirszon from Yugoslavia. But none could quite fathom how to successfully bottle a young 16-year-old Indian whirlwind Leander Paes.

And so between them—seeds No 1 + No 7 + No 12 + no 13—could only muster one set.

They spun lobs. Twisted serves. Curved forehands. Flatted backhands. But the response was the same. A grunt, that seemed to emanate at his toes and whoosh right through his body. And a volley, and volleys and more volleys so quick left right-low high hissing off the surface like a Porsche in pursuit.

I for one having seen Leander through Indian winter and despite being unimpressed definitely did not expect such an outstanding and consistent performance. The kid's, essential free spirit, spontaneous in his play, proving people wrong and enjoying that.

Loosing in the Australian Open boys final to German Dirk Dier was unfortunate only for the record books. For Leander had already managed to send out those vital smoke signals through his play. Signals that anyone court-side could decipher—this kid has definitely got something there.

Leander's success was a combination of many

factors: a consistent adherence to a sensible game-plan that he had formulated himself, and the fact that this net-play style, a total antithesis of what is being taught worldwide, was difficult to counter.

And then a third factor that won him wide praise: a never-say-die, highly combative attitude. A vocal vindication of a good shot, an insatiable appetite for victory—at 40-15 up opponents realise that for Leander the game is not yet over. A raw energy that could run an atomic plant, and a desire that bless him,

He has a tendency to blast, to smack the ball. Without control. Without reason. And when in that mood, linesmen are advised to wear helmets.

appears frighteningly limitless. It is the edge that Indian players through this decade have not had. It is edge that makes the difference.

This aggression, for lack of a better encompassing word, was epitomised in his semi-final against Hirszon. Up 6-2, 4-2 in an absurd and desperately fast turnaround, Leander suddenly found himself down 6-2, 6-7, 2-5, 0-30. In such reverse situations everything magnifies: the sun becomes hotter, the jeers, if any, more pronounced, the service toss appears awkward,



1. Peter Bodo (*Tennis magazine*).
2. John Parsons (*Daily Telegraph*).
3. Phillippe Bouin (*L'Equipe*).
4. Richard Evans.



the shoulders do that losers' slump; the brain is exhausted of new ideas. It is a circumstance in which grown men comfortably and quietly crumble in. Sixteen-year olds are almost not supposed to react. But Paes did. He found an invisible battery courtside to recharge his game. And cruised home winning the next five games. It was a breathless, mind boggling, heart wrenching display.

Leander's coach Dave O'Meara and father Vece Paes (both no doubt terribly proud and why not) or anyone else assigned to him, must let Leander recognise his asset and understand its value. It is championship class, what 16-year-olds would normally die for so young. You can acquire a game. But not this.

The victory streak acquired another distinguished mention, when you consider Leander's immaturity from the backcourt. He has a tendency to blast, to smack the ball. Without control. Without reason. And when in that mood,

Had he tried to rally from the baseline, he would have been back in Madras a week earlier, everyone patting his back, saying 'Never mind'.



- Beat A. McDonald 6-3, 6-2.
- Beat J. Kodes 6-1, 7-6.
- Beat S. Petratshek 6-4, 6-3.
- Beat J. Eagle 6-2, 6-3.
- Beat S. Hirszon 6-2, 4-6, 7-5.
- Lost to D. Dier 4-6, 6-7.

linesmen, ten feet behind the baseline are advised to wear helmets. Basically he gets carried away. So, if he, like some foolish soldiers attacking a machine-gun nest head on with a bayonet, had tried to rally from the baseline, he would have been back in Madras a week earlier, everyone patting his back saying 'Never mind'

But, barring the odd shot, he disciplined this too. When forced, or

A raw energy that could run an atomic plant; and a desire that, bless him, appears frighteningly limitless. It is the edge that makes the difference.

having taken the sensible option to play a point from the back, he visibly controlled himself, keeping the ball in play, always alert for a chance to come in. But the backcourt game, especially service returns (not just slicing and hitting it) needs much work. So does his positional play. Why I say this, he knows it.

For 95% of his matches Leander was at the net. Now, every

junior player, European or otherwise, is carefully tutored that the mode of 20th century tennis is baseline play. It seems that if the serve and volley sucks it doesn't matter. If the backhand is double-fisted, the forehand heavily topspun and 100 balls can be successively put over the net, you're safe. Ahem, not from Mr Paes that is.

He followed every first serve to the net and took his options on the second. Every second serve, and some firsts, of his opponent were met with a similar response. The result: if X wanted the point they required the pass. Since he timed his approaches well, taking it early, giving it a decent direction, often to the body which is the hardest, that was no easy task.

And Leander fulfilled his role perfectly: volleying away everything those not even within easy reach. Only the low, backhand volley gives him much trouble. Tall, nicely muscled alert, looming over the net, eyes burning, he was unsettling to say the least. Opponents were rushed for time, for them unusual. Their footwork went awry,

and struggled for a new rhythm a workable answer to this hustle.

Leander knows there is much work to be done... and that it will progressively get more difficult. That there are strange pressures and expectations to be

handled. He's the new kid on the block and everyone's gonna want to beat him.

But I have never seen Leander Paes flinch from a challenge. He will be ready. This marvellous young champion.



WHEN Clive Lloyd misses anything from his

wardrobe he knows just where to find it—in his daughter's closet

"I'll look in her closet and she'll say, 'Oh dad, remember this?' and sure enough it will be some long-lost article of clothing that now conforms to fashion."

Welcome to teenagerhood, Clive

Lloyd, the current manager of the West Indies cricket team, is busy not only looking after the team but also rearing two teenage

DEBRA ANTHONY

daughters, Melissa, 15; Samantha, 13—and an eight-year-old son, Jason.

My son is at the age where you have to smack him every now and again to remind him who is boss, Lloyd says, and his daughters, who have been going to boarding school since they were nine, have grown into "very responsible people."

Lloyd is proud of his children, and of his wife, too.

My children understand the value of money, he says, recounting an incident when he went shopping with one of his girls and, although she liked a particular pair of shoes, she did not ask for it because she said she did not need it and he had already spent a lot of money to send her to a boarding school to get a good education.

I really have to be grateful that I have children who are not just takers but givers as well," he says.



CLIVELL

Citizen of the World

WIFE, A GEM

Lloyd credits his wife, Waveney, for the way his children have turned out.

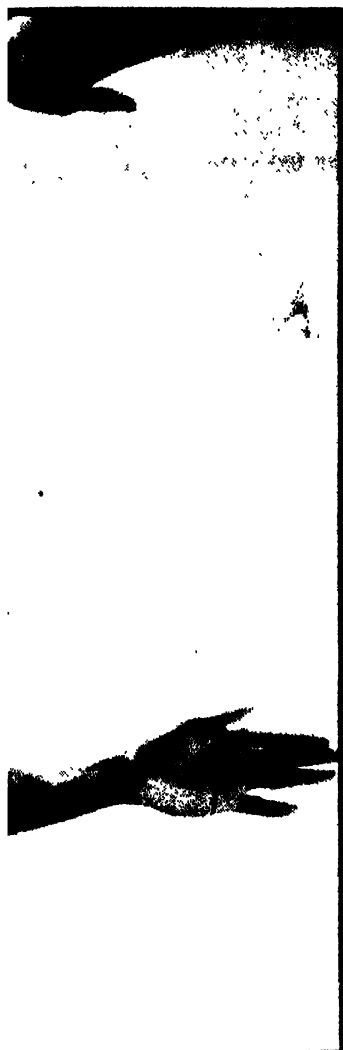
"She has been mother and father to them and she's done a damn good job. When I look at them today I say to myself you've chosen carefully

and you've chosen well. She is just a gem. Independence, self-sufficiency and knowing the value of money are important to Lloyd because of his childhood. His father died when he was 12 years old and he had to be the breadwinner of the house, sending his

four sisters and one brother through school and college.

That's how I suppose I developed this strong sense of responsibility. I realised, from an early age that I was in charge."

For that reason and for his success in his chosen profession, Lloyd



LOYD

says his mother holds him in awe.

"She is very proud of me and she knows that she can depend on me for any little thing."

CONTROLLED AND IN CHARGE

♦ Lloyd himself is a loyal friend. He does not

believe in "making people feel small" and he likes to appear controlled and in charge. He would never rebuke his players in public (this would show that he is not in control of his players and the game) and he is the same in his private life.

"I don't believe in washing dirty linen in public, there's a time and place for everything" he quoted.

How does Lloyd handle the pressure of the game and the chase? "I sleep and watch a lot of television to relax," he says. He seems surprised that women regard him as sexy and powerful.

"Really?!" he asks, astonished.

But Lloyd is the typical and atypical Caribbean man. "Women don't like to be embarrassed," he said. "And I would never, ever embarrass my wife. If I didn't think she was the woman for me I would not have married her."

But he has been tempted. "You meet a lot of beautiful women on tour...but I don't want to be divorced...As the kids get older they get closer to you and they want to know that they have a father they can be proud of...I want my children to look up to me...You have to live the kind of life that people will respect," he says.

IMAGE AND REPUTATION

His image and reputation are important to him. "I don't like people having a hold over me. I like to know that we are all standing on the same kind of ground."

How does he see himself?

He considers himself an introvert.. "not a limelighter at all." For fun he reads, "anything", plays squash or goes pigeon-shooting or to the cinema, or to the theatre—"a lot".

"I normally tell a good joke," he says, not at all shy here. "Oh, yes, I usually keep the guys laughing."

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

One of Lloyd's pet peeves is unmannerly people. "I can't stand them at all," while he feels that his major weakness is "trusting people too much. They usually let

"You meet a lot of beautiful women on tour...but I don't want to be divorced"

you down," he says.

And he has had a lot of that in trying to settle himself for the life after cricket

"There was talk about doing something up at UWI, and with CARICOM and with the Matalon group, but for one reason or the other, it all fell through. All the things that I would have been doing here fell through, that's why I'm still in England.

"I had thought that by now I would have been settled in my own business though.. I don't know what kind...but in my own business."

Right now he and his wife run a nursing home—"she runs it actually," and he is involved in community

relations in radio as well as in projects that benefit the less fortunate.

LIFE AFTER CRICKET

Soon after he retired from world class cricket in 1985, his wife asked him if he really wanted to do this.

And he said yes.

"But it doesn't really hit you that you've left the game, until they pick a new team and your name isn't on it," he says.

Still, leaving the field did not mean leaving the game, for Lloyd, as manager, now watches from the pavilion and still gets the same nervous tension curling his stomach when things become tight.

"I'm there for the guys if they ever need me. I give advice, help them with the game, they even still call me captain," he said with a slight smile.

HIGHEST ACCOLADE

That is probably the highest accolade the cricketers could pay to the 45-year-old Lloyd, for he holds as one of his greatest moments, the time he heard that he had been given the captaincy of the team.

"There is no greater athlete than the captain of the West Indies cricket team because you're in charge of all of these people and their destiny, basically. You give a lift to so many people when you win and you let a lot of people down when you lose. And cricket is a very, very important part of our lives."

Courtesy CIBC

The Wizard Of The Dribble

Sir Stanley Matthews turned 75 on February 1

THERE's never been a player like him. And certainly no-one can hope to equal his remarkable career.

Sir Stanley Matthews the first professional footballer ever to be knighted was not only still playing at the age of 50 he had also never been warned by a referee in 33 years of football.

He was a born gentleman in an age when bad manners on and off the field were already making headlines. Not only that this quiet and unassuming player was always the first to give his colleagues all the credit.

A wiry slightly hunched figure he dedicated himself to fitness and healthy living. Cold showers, light meals and an intensive exercise regime kept him at peak fitness for more than three decades.

He practised the game relentlessly. He would dribble the ball between sticks to perfect his body swerve and corner shots at pieces of paper strategically placed around the penalty area and mastered the 20 yard sprint so that no-one could catch him once he had the ball.

He specialised in drawing tackles to lead a defender away from the goal, rarely scoring himself but setting up the majority of goals for his team mates.

They called him the wizard of the dribble" and even though his opponents knew his distinctive swerves and shuffles well they were at a loss as to how to deal with them.

Said Johnny Carey captain of

Manchester United in the 1948 final in which Matthews' team Blackpool lost 2-4. Stanley was special. As he moved towards you with the ball you knew almost for sure what he was going to do and there was almost nothing you could do about it.

His control of the ball was ex-



Sir Stanley the first footballer to be knighted

ceptional and he would be there one moment gone the next. He was the fastest player over a few yards that I ever saw or played against.

Sir Stanley was born 75 years ago (on February 1) in the Potteries the son of a talented amateur boxer. His father was a fitness fanatic and a very demanding man forcing his son to join in his early morning exercises per-

formed before an open window.

The youngster was football mad practising endlessly against the garden wall with a rubber ball even though his father wanted him to box and run.

Nothing but the best was good enough for Matthews senior who told his son that if he really wanted to be a footballer he'd better set his sights on being a schoolboy international.

Stanley dutifully obliged. He was playing for the school by the age of 11 and was soon a regular on the England schoolboy squad. The manager of Stoke City, the local professional team could not fail to notice this rising talent and Stanley was signed up as an amateur as soon as he left school at 15.

Two years later he turned professional choosing to remain with the club which had given him his first break. In fact he stayed with Stoke until 1947 his playing career interrupted only by service in the RAF during the Second World War.

Following his return to civilian life however Stanley bought himself a guesthouse in Blackpool as financial security for his future. He lived there while continuing to play at Stoke training on the beach in the early mornings instead of at the ground.

Special dispensation was given to him for a while but the situation became difficult and Stanley requested a transfer to the Blackpool team. Stoke was shocked. Fans even packed the town hall for an emergency protest meeting.

"His control of the ball was exceptional and he would

It didn't work. Blackpool handed over a £11,500 transfer fee, and he played for them for the next 14 years. Blackpool's fortunes soared—the club reached the Cup Final three times during his stay, and Stanley was the man responsible for them creating victory out of an almost certain third defeat in 1953.

With less than half an hour to play, he managed to turn the match around from 1-3 down to a 4-3 triumph over Bolton Wanderers. Later, he said it had been his last chance to carry out the deathbed wish of his father—that he carry home the coveted cup-winners medal.

A wiry, slightly hunched figure, he dedicated himself to fitness and healthy living, cold showers, light meals, and an intensive exercise regime kept him at peak fitness for more than three decades.



In 1961 he returned to Stoke for a mere £2,800—and general rejoicing. 'He's back!' cried the local headlines, and at his first appearance the gate rose from 9,000 to 36,000. With his help, Stoke City played itself right back into the first division.

At the same time, Stanley was pursuing a successful international career. He first played for his country aged just 19, against Wales in 1934, took part in 20 of the 26 wartime internationals played, and won the last of his 56 caps against Denmark in 1957.

Nevertheless, with a golden career that lasted until he was an astonishing 50, when pressed to recall his favourite match he invariably came up with something quite surprising: an impromptu knockabout with Arab and African urchins in Zanzibar, who mobbed him after a 1956 match in Dar es Salaam.

Already a CBE, he became the first British footballer to be knighted when he was made a KBE at the age of 50, shortly before his retirement. It was an honour thought long overdue by his

In action for his team Blackpool

fans, who were awed not just by his talent but his immaculate behaviour. He is probably the only player in football history never to have been cautioned by a referee, much less sent off.

After his retirement, Sir Stanley was briefly general manager of Port Vale, but found his real niche as a roving ambassador for the game. He spent many years in Malta, but now lives in Canada with his second wife.

Julie Cockcroft: PA News Features

be there one moment, gone the next..."

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BISHAN SINGH BEDI, the cricket manager who had already entered the *Guinness Book of World Records* for the number of press interviews given by him, was not a bit ruffled when I approached him for yet another one.

"These interviews do pep me up," he said. "And I am being sought after by all the media stars. Do you know that in one day I was interviewed by Shoba De Dom Moraes, Kuldip Nayar, Prem Shankar Jha, Amita Malik, Tavleen Singh, Iqbal Masud? And I am told that Girilal Jain is

interested in having a chat with me after he acquaints himself with cricket."

"I only hope that your status in the media does not make Raj Singh Dungarpur envious," I said.

Bedi laughed. "Oh, we get along quite well," he said. "Now what exactly do you want to know? I mean, what is your angle?"

Well, you have covered every subject connected with the New Zealand tour so thoroughly that there is hardly anything left to ask you," I pointed out. "But there is just one remaining angle. It's about providing our cricketers with sweaters from England. Was that necessary?"

Bedi pursed his lips. "A good question ignored by all others," he said. "As you know for this tour we are starting with a new clean slate. When we have discarded the old and the useless, why can't we throw away the old sweaters and replace them with good, English ones?"

"Our woollen goods manufacturers are not going to like this one bit," I pointed out. "And don't forget that most of them are from Punjab."

Bedi spread out his hands in a gesture of dismissal. "Listen, Raj and I decided that we will go for quality. After all, we are planning not just for the tour of New Zealand, but for the entire decade. And that means equipping the team properly."

"A thorough, professional approach," I said.

"Raj Singh loves everything English," explained Bedi. "Including shuffling captains every time a team is chosen. When I suggested English sweaters, he jumped up, embraced me and asked me to go ahead."

"You are a terrific combination," I said.



Bedi nodded modestly. "All said and done, the English have certain positive points. I don't like their players all that much but as for sweaters, they are the best. Also vaseline. If ever I feel that my team needs vaseline, I'd order for the English brand, the one used by John Lever in India."

"Oh, how can anyone forget that?" I said, laughing.

"There is also another reason for the English sweaters," Bedi went on. "Rightly or wrongly, I have this reputation of being very strict and all that. Now, some of the

kid players become cold and stiff

whenever they see me or when I speak to them. Their teeth chatter, hands tremble and they have a frozen look. Now, I really want to protect my team and the best way seems to be distributing English sweaters to the players."

"A brilliant idea," I said.

"New Zealand itself can be bitterly cold," said the cricketing manager. "Over and above that I have to consider this kind of reaction among some of the players. I want active, energetic players not frozen stiff."

That was well put, I said.

"Besides English sweaters I've ordered some English wool," he continued. "Those who do not get a place in the regular playing eleven will not be wasting their time with me as manager. They will be expected to learn knitting and finish at least two pullovers by the time the tour is over."

"A brilliant idea," I exclaimed.

Bedi nodded with enthusiasm. "Mind you, I have warned the players about certain issues. For instance, I have coined a team song."

*'Mera sweater hain Angrezi,
Jhootan hain Australian!
Sarpe blue topi Hong Kong!
Phirti khelna hain Hindustani!'*

That means, however they are attired, they will play like Indians."

I nodded. "Naturally," I said. "And come back without a single win. Thanks to Dungarpur and Co."

SAI Ka Siddis

This is the story of the Siddis, a negroid tribe that have settled in India. They are, by their inheritance, naturally inclined towards athletics. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) have undertaken a programme to encourage their potential.

WHERE the lion roars, panthers prowl and hyenas scavenge, India's adolescent athletic hopefuls reside and play. The place is the Gir Lion Sanctuary in Junagarh, Gujarat, and the budding athletes hail from the Siddi tribe. The Siddis, Gujarati-speaking tribe of African descent, are found in two areas, three taluks in Karnataka and certain districts in Gujarat.

Since 1988, 11 Siddis in Gandhinagar and 30 (16 boys and 14 girls) in Bangalore are being trained for excellence in the middle distance events. The Gandhinagar coach R. Sunderaju says, "By 1994 the Siddis should dominate the 400 and 800 metres both in the men's and women's sections in India." The intensive training is being financed by the Special Area Games (SAG) wing of the Sports Authority of India (SAI). The project officer attached to this, B. V. P. Rao says, "the Siddis have a proven genetic advantage and so a long-term coaching scheme fits into the parameters of our scheme."

Sociologists have two theories on the origin of the Siddis. The more acceptable one is that they were brought as personal bodyguards from Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) by the Delhi Sultanate in the twelfth century. Some of them settled in India and survived as agricultural labourers and hunters. Another theory is that they were part of a detachment of slaves, shipwrecked near Gujarat and Karnataka and so settled in the nearby forests.

In spite of their African links the Siddis are now Indianised in dress, language and food habits. But they retain their rhythm (visible in their vibrant community dance, 'Damal') and athletic ability which is true to their roots. Genetic advantage is there. It is a question of spotting and identifying talent and then nurturing them. The SAI are on the

Siddi hopefuls gather at the start of the 600 metres run in order to get selected





Rafiq Makwana: his timings speak for themselves

right track and at long last Indian athletics' talent hunt has borne fruit. The ITC have granted Rs. 1 crore to the AAFI for a long-term development programme. The SAG wing of the SAI are concentrating on the Siddis in a scheme akin to the 'Homes of Sports' schemes of China. The SAG have

INSPITE of their African links, the Siddis are now Indianised in dress, language and food habits. But they retain their heritage (visible in their vibrant community dances, Damaa and athletic ability which is true to their roots



proved that such schemes can work in sports such as archery, Limba Ram's silver medal in the Asian meet is testimony. Maybe it can work in athletics also. As BVP Rao says, "The chosen Siddi athletes are becoming role models in their villages. They have gained weight at an average of eight kgs due to a nutritious diet, dress smartly and get a stipend of Rs. 150 monthly. This adds to the family income. Instead of being a forgotten tribe, the Siddis now have a stake in the system. At least for the chosen

A few of the Siddi children who assembled for the second talent hunt in Junagadh



INSTEAD of being a forgotten tribe, the Siddis now have a stake in the social system. At least for the chosen athletes, under the care of SAI it is a chance for upward social mobility

athletes it is a chance of upward social mobility. So the money spent on Siddi athletes has a dual advantage, social progress and developing athletic talent.

Even as teenagers with barely a year's training, several Siddis have revealed immense potential. The talent hunt in the Gujarat region was first held in April 1988, when they were totally unaware of athletics. Sixty-three Siddi boys and girls were chosen, after an assessment camp, 11 got selected

THE WAY THEY ARE

THE ability to transcend social disadvantages and hardships is remarkable of the Siddis. Murima's mother works as a housemaid, father having deserted the family. If it had not been for athletics, Murima would have been doing manual labour by now. Murima is now a modern teenager. She wears tight fitting jeans and frilly blouses. Her aspirations are foreign travel and success for India in international athletics. Her role model, as of all the Siddi children, is P.T. Usha.

Rafiq hails from Jamurb village in the dense Gir forest. Till the village was electrified six years ago, lions prowled in the vicinity. His father is dead and his brothers are agricultural labourers. Homesick, he left for his village for 20 days, in the middle of training. He has yet to get used to spikes. But coach Sunderaju says, "once Rafiq gets over the problems of adjustment, he has immense potential, long strides and power to succeed in the 400 and 800 metres."

Mehboob Ismail is another promising 400 and 800 metres runner. He was a silver medallist in the 800 metres in the West Zone meet. Mehboob is from Birwan village, from a family of agricultural labourers, he is now a hero in his village. For the





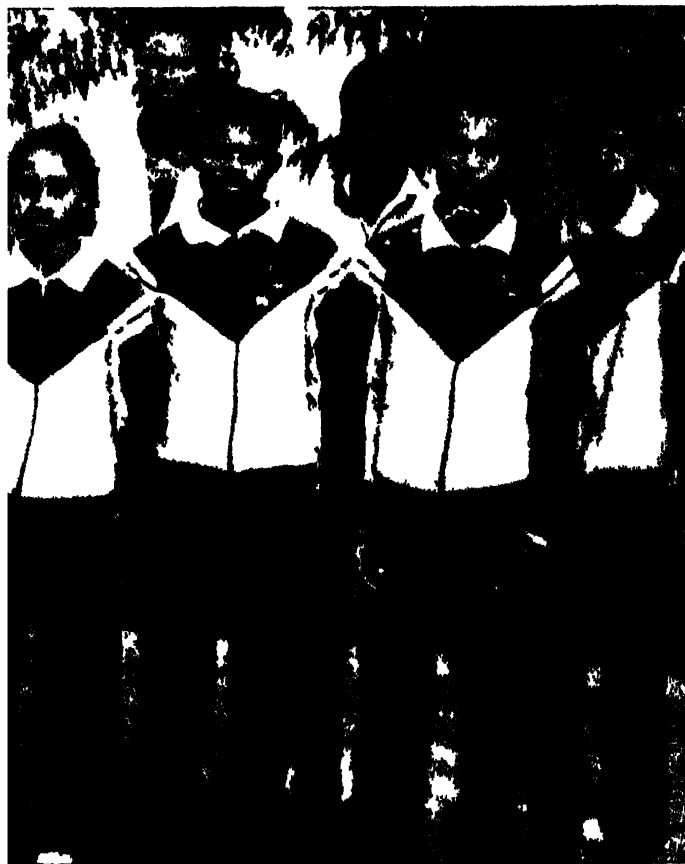
Fourteen-year-old 400m prodigy Murima Hussain: second talent hunt in Gujarat, Mehboob returned to Sirwan and brought twelve aspirants with him. Rafiq brought 40 children with him from Jamurb. Motiben Hyder Darzada has no speed but can run all day. It is natural stamina says her coach. So he has made her a 10,000 metres runner. Without

understanding anything about tactics she won a bronze medal at the West Zone meet. Seven Siddi athletes have been selected to represent Gujarat in the National School Games at Trivandrum. But according to B.V.P. Rao, the most promising Siddi is an eight year old girl at the Bangalore training centre. She has been renamed Damengo 2000 for in 2000 A.D. she will be twenty years old and ready for international competition. She clocks 1:40 in the 600 metres. A natural athlete.

In the Jamnagar district, young Siddis from the age of eight years onwards are training daily. Community leader Yusufbhai says, "Siddi youth are inspired by the SAI scheme and are keen to run." The results are evident. For the school talent hunt held before Republic Day, 488 children in just the 12-14 years age group participated. They underwent six special tests devised to ascertain their potential. Thirty boys and 18 girls were selected for an assessment camp commencing from February to March. The aim is to select 30 Siddis of potential and train them for four years at Gandhinagar.

The Siddis at Gandhinagar are Gujarati speaking Muslims, of African descent, being trained by the secular R. Sunderaju, a South Indian married to a Punjabi and a resident of Gujarat for 18 years. An apt representation of unity in diversity in India.

Novy Kapadia



for intensive training at Gandhinagar. The training commenced on August 10, 1988.

As coach R. Sunderaju explains, "For one year I concentrated on conditioning (so that their bodies could take any workload), developed their running styles and explained tactics. With just three months of track work, eight Siddi athletes won 11 medals in their first national level competition, the West Zone Junior Championships at Pune."

It is not the medals but the impressive timings which reveal their obvious potential. Fifteen year old Rafiq Makwana, a sinewy and lanky youth has already gone below two minutes in the 800 metres and 52 seconds in the 400 metres. Even more remarkable is the performance of 14-year-old Murima Jubeda Hussain having already timed 60 seconds in the 400 meters. In the recent trials for the 4x400 metres relay squad for the Commonwealth Games, the timings of Sajida Begum and Shantimol Philips was in the 58 seconds region. They are trained athletes with years of experience. Jubeda has just three months of track experience. Yet, she is already nearing the best in India. As coach Sunderaju says, "With four years of hard work, Murima could easily go below 52 seconds and reach international class." The message is clear: the Siddis are moving in the fast lane.

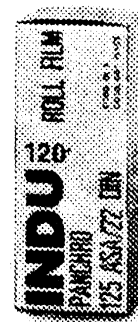
Novy Kapadia

BLACK & WHITE & B E A U T I F U L



Maa.

Shy and demure. A long time ago.
A Black & White photograph
has that timeless quality.
A memory becomes a legacy.
I can almost imagine how shy Maa was.



INDU B & W FILM
For keeps. Forever.

CUBAN NIGHTMARES

The sporty kind

If you think that Commonwealth Games faced problems, you've got another think looming. For political troubles, take a look at the Pan Am Games to be held next year.

They will be held in (hold your breath!) Cuba. Already they have dropped one sport, ninepin bowling of all things. Reason? Cannot get the equipment from the U.S. of A. This is not the only problem to spring from the economic sanctions first imposed against Cuba in the Sixties. The Games people can't get drug testing equipment from the States either, and where would modern sport be without that. In an unsporting situation, methinks.

Furthermore, as things stand, coverage by the American TV network, ABC, is barred by law. However, the US is likely to field the largest contingent of athletes. I'm sure there is some logic behind all this, but it is beyond my comprehension at present. Thank you!

THEY LOVE MAC

The Aussies do!

HERE is some feedback on John McEnroe's infamous dismissal from the Aussie Open in Melbourne. Brat he may be, but the poor old soul still has a few faithfuls rooting for him.

Mary Evans, who had come 250 miles (440 kms) by bus said, "I'm ashamed to be an Australian. We still don't know why

it happened. We can't see what he did wrong." Strike one for John.

It seems that Mac's swearing at officials could not be heard by spectators. Ian Welsh, an Australian tennis professional who arrived with 90 junior players, called it a disgrace. "McEnroe's famous for bad behaviour but people have the right to see him play. He said Strike two for John."

Klaus Radow of West Berlin said he and his wife were 'terribly disappointed. He is the most famous player in the world and it was a bad time for the umpire to call him. "Three strikes! Yer out, Ref!"



GOOD OLD GEOFF

As coach



GEOFFREY Boycott is set to become the greatest cricket coach in the history of the game. Few people have given so much thought and devotion to the art and science of batting, and old Geoffrey seems to have set his traditional secrecy aside.

He has, besides helping the England team, also, impartially enough, helped Australia's Dean Jones to bat so well.

Said he, "I told Jones that if he had my brains and his ability he would make a real 'mean' batsman." (Shades of old Geoffrey, alright.) "I told him," he continued, "that he got himself out more often than the bowler did, and that's criminal."

It won't be very long before we get to know the results of the training imparted by Geoffrey to the English youngsters. Gotta see, if they run away from the quickies, or meet the ball 'square on the face'.

A RACIST

With a kink

DENVER Broncos' owner Pat Bowler it seems has got a kinky racial streak in him.

He recently apologised for offending a Chinese American group by using the term "Chinaman" while joking about a black San Francisco 49ers player.

Bowler explained it as a tongue-in-cheek assessment of the San Francisco team. Saying "Those guys have got a great owner. They've got God for a quarterback. They've got a Chinaman who plays wide receiver and whose feet never touch the ground."

Bowler, when asked what he meant, said, "That Chinese guy. What's his name? Rice?" referring to Jerry Rice, who is black.

A group called Chinese for Affirmative Action demanded an apology. Bowler duly complied.

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 Only two athletes retained their titles in the Seoul Olympic Games, which they had won in the Los Angeles Olympics. One was Carl Lewis, who was the other?
- 2 As far as the Olympics are concerned, Indian women have been taking part since 1952. But after 32 years, an Indian woman reached the semifinal of an Olympic event in 1984 at the Los Angeles Olympic Games. Who is she?
- 3 Which great athlete was called 'The first lady of track and field'?
- 4 Name this distinguished player, who has the unique feat of winning the best player award at both the World Junior Football championships and World Cup football.
- 5 He was banned from playing for his country's soccer team following the publication of his autobiography 'Kickoff' which contained allegations that many players of his took drugs.
- 6 Which is the only country that failed to win a single gold medal as host to the Olympic Games?
- 7 What was unique about the very first ball bowled in the Reliance Cup cricket final?
- 8 Who was the single-handed famous Test umpire from England? His right arm had been amputated?
- 9 For what sporting event is 'K. Raghuramaiah Trophy' awarded?
- 10 To whom is the 'Egypt Cup' awarded at the world table tennis championships?
- 11 They are the only brothers to have won Olympic boxing golds and world heavyweight titles. Identify them.
- 12 How was the boxer Walker Smith better known?
- 13 Prakash Padukone won the prestigious men's singles at the All England badminton championships in 1980 to become the first ever Indian to do so. Whom did he defeat to achieve this unique feat?

YOUR RATING TEST!

BELOW 4: Read Sportsworld more regularly
BETWEEN 5 AND 9: You probably do read but forget faster
ABOVE 9: You're a sports buff
ALL 13: Sit on the next sports quiz

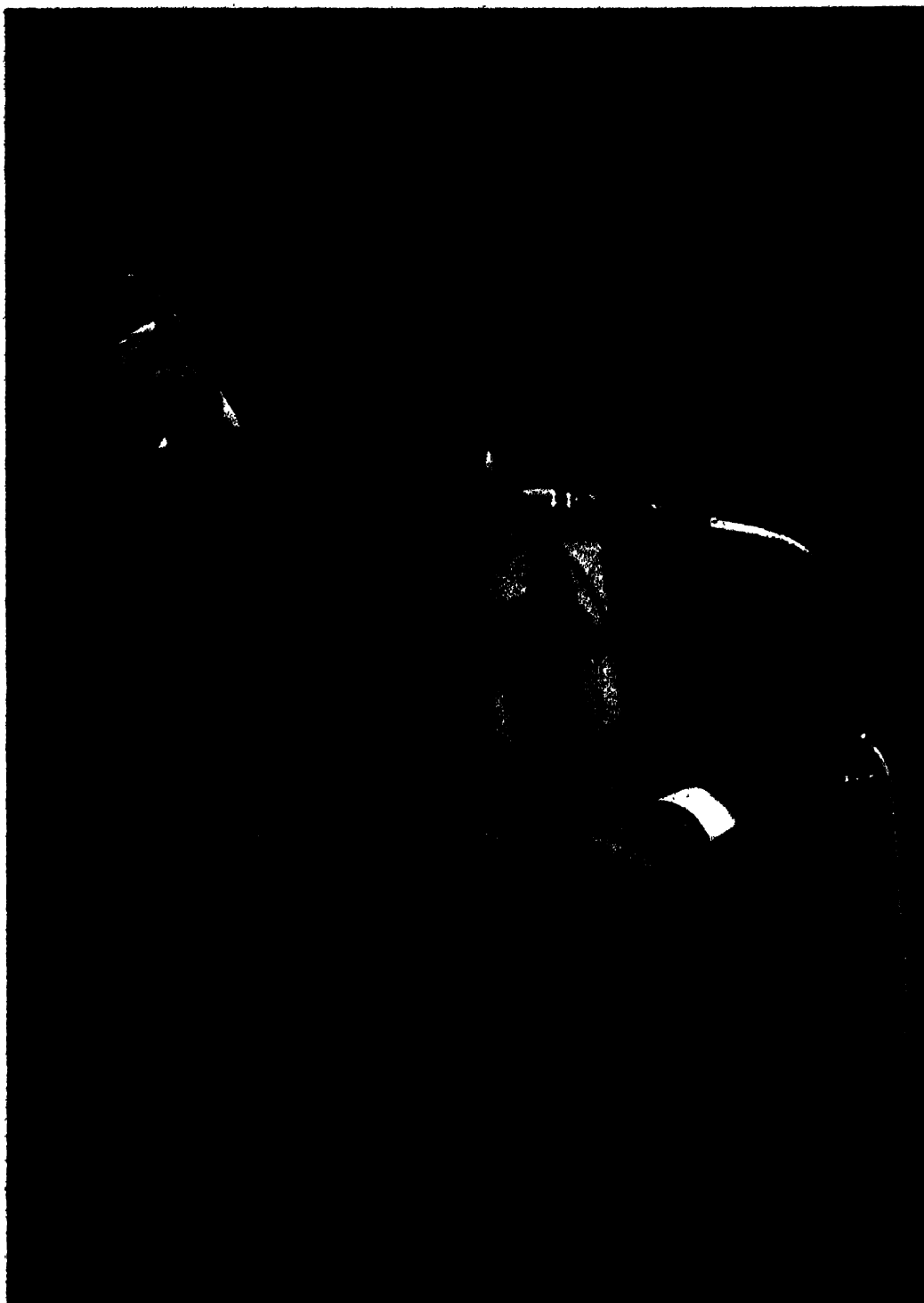
Note: Give yourself a point for each correct answer

ANSWERS

1. Roger Kingdom, USA (110 m hurdles).
2. Shiny Abraham, who reached the semifinal of the 800 m.
3. 'Fanny' Blankers Koen (Holland), she won 4 gold medals at London Olympics in 1908 and became the first woman to do so.
4. Diego Armando Maradona (Argentina) who won it in 1979 and 1986 respectively.
5. Harald Schumacher, who was the goalkeeper of runners up West German team of Mexico World Cup.
6. Canada, Montreal Olympics (1976).
7. It was a no ball!
8. Frank Chester.
9. Winners of the cricket match between the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, which is held annually.
10. To the host country of the world table tennis championship. The host country keeps it till the next championship.
11. Leon Spinks and Michael Spinks, won the light heavyweight and middle weight golds respectively in 1976. Leon defeated Muhammad Ali in 1978, while Michael upset Larry Holmes in 1985 to clinch the world heavyweight title.
12. Sugar Ray Robinson (USA).
13. Liem Swie King (Indonesia).

This quiz has been compiled by **MOHAN KUMAR AGRAWAL**
 C/o Hari Ram Agrawal,
 Ward No. 1,
 P.O. Bargarh 768 028,
 Orissa.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



PHOTOGRAPH TOMMY HINDLEY

The wrong person in the wrong place. Jimmy Connors here is in the 'hot seat'. Ironically as it may seem, most of Connors' problems tended to originate from this chair. Here the former 'umpire-hater' turns the tables by officiating as umpire in the Nabisco Senior Masters '89. And he does so with great relish!

TENNIS INDEX

Compiled by Paul Fain



Country from which world no 4 Zina Garrison gets most of her fan mail West Germany

Player that Steffi Graf solicited as a practice partner for the entire 1988 U S Open 15-year-old Tommy Ho

Ranking of Ilie Nastase's and Ilion Tiriac's autobiography ("It Would Have Been Beautiful") on the Romanian best-seller list No 1 for two years

What eccentric Art Larsen, the 1950 U S champion used to do when he changed sides during a match He tapped his opponent

How John McEnroe described his having to play Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker in consecutive matches at the 1989 Masters tournament "It's like a firing squad "

Where 18 year-old Soviet standout Natalia Zvereva, a week after she got her driver's license, parked her loaner Mercedes in Chicago On the sidewalk in front of her hotel

Number of football, basketball, baseball, hockey and soccer players combined who were named by the International Federation of Body Builders among its 20 honourees for "Most Outstanding Physiques of the '80s" 2

Number of tennis players named 3 (Steffi Graf, Martina Navratilova and Ivan Lendl)

What doubles standout Ken Flach says he majored in at Southern Illinois University "Tennis and pizza "

How Andre Agassi says he will be in 1990 "Very straightforward, sincere and honest "

TOMMY HO



PRODEEP PAUL

TOMMY HINDLEY

Who Martina Navratilova wants to be in her next life Basketball superstar Michael Jordan

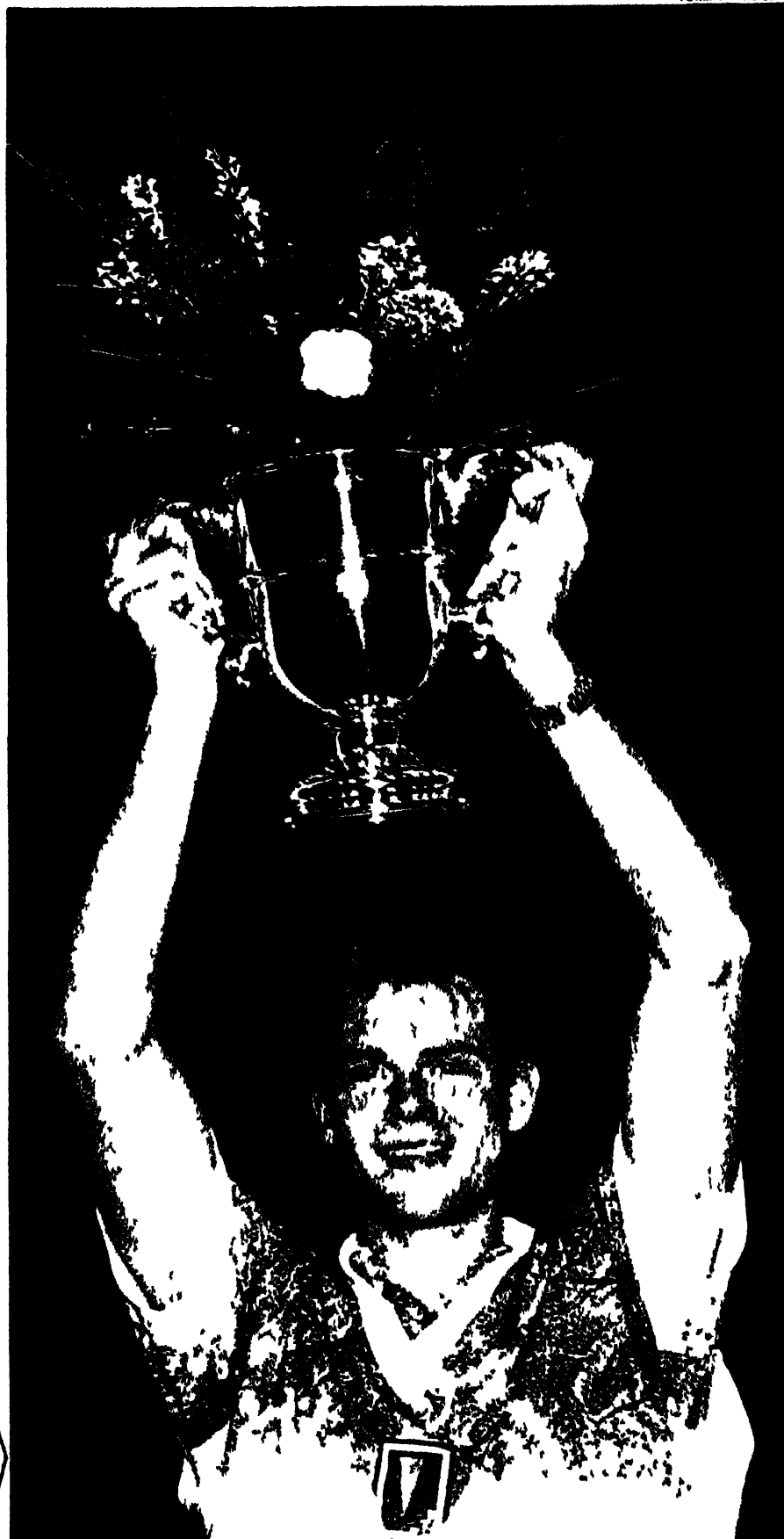
Only men's doubles teams that have won more than 10 Grand Prix titles in a year during the Open era John McMillroe and Peter Flenning (15 in 1979), Frew McMillan and Bob Hewitt (11 in 1977)

Number of times that South Africans McMillan and Hewitt, one of the world's top doubles teams from 1966 to 1980, had dinner together—excluding Davis Cup team meals when they had to 0

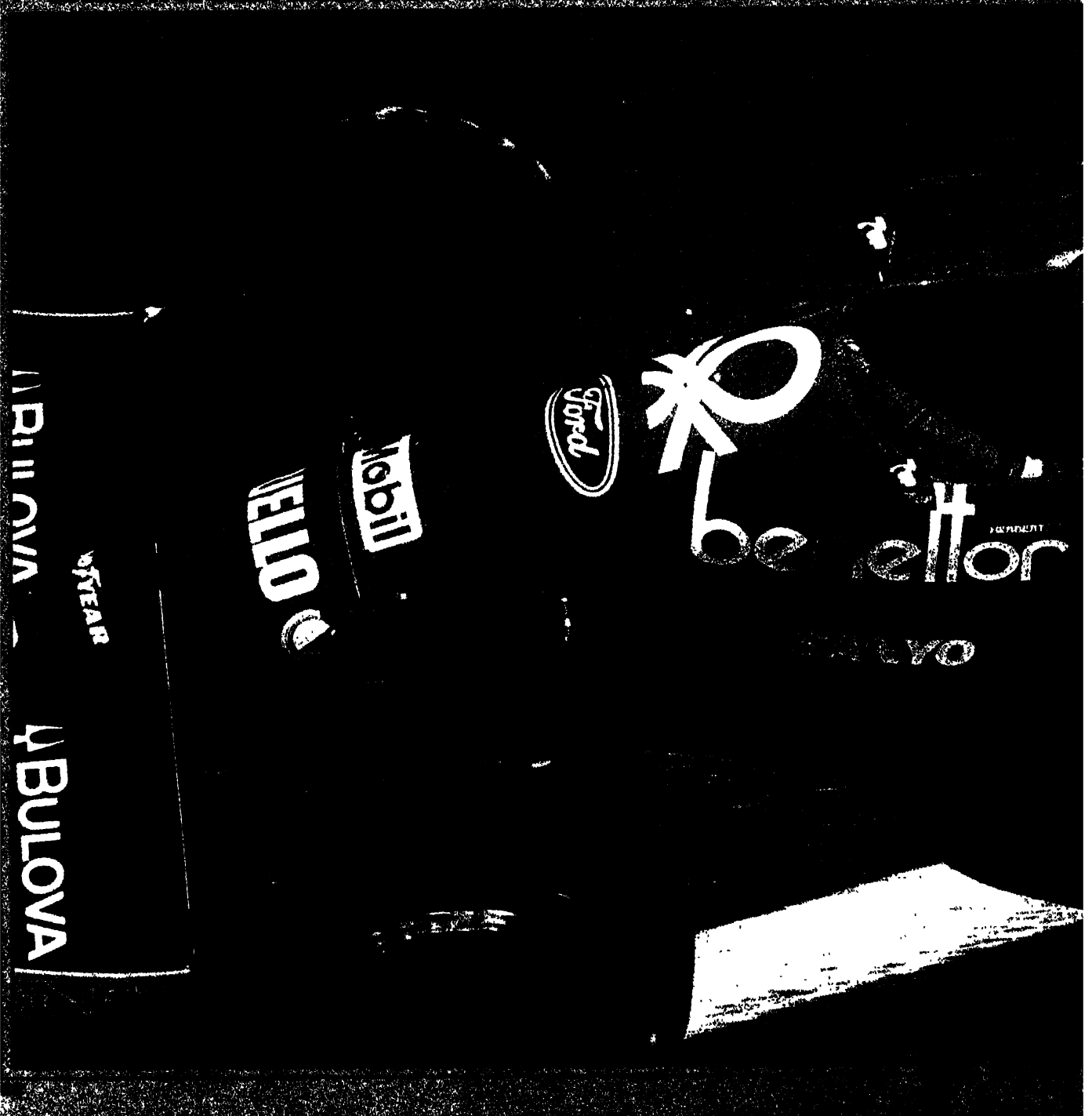
What 1960s Australian star Fred Stolle says is "80 per cent of the game on the serve and every other stroke" Shoulder turn

What leading Spanish junior player, Franc Bosch, humorously listed as his hobby in his Orange Bowl Championships player biography Sex

Number of Swedish journalists who covered the 1989 Masters tournament in New York—which Sweden's Stefan Edberg won by beating Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker 0

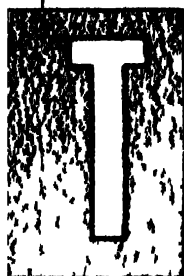


A SHIFT IN TIME





COLOMBIA



TODAY, Colombia is being labelled as 'The land of football and scandal where "cocaine football" does not merely survive. It flourishes!'

Till the late Eighties Colombian football was almost a joke in comparison with its neighbours. Bogota was the hub of this mediocrity. And scandal. Including The Bobby Moore scandal of May 1970 when the British football captain was accused of stealing an eighteen carat bracelet of gold from Fuego Verde, a jewellery shop.

A place where mighty drug barons cultivating and trafficking illicit drugs terrorise their opponents and invest in professional football.

With a violent history of independence and civil wars followed by the present turbulence the economy has developed steadily. So has its professional football.

In 1948 a professional league got started. In 1950 a rebel league flourished for four seasons before being disbanded in 1953. There was a lot of money in it. It sucked in 100 pros from Argentina which included Alfredo di

Stefano, Hector Rial, Angel Labruna, Nestor Rossi and the "maestro" Adolfo Pedernera.

The next time the world heard of Colombian football was in the 1962 World Cup. Colombia qualified at Peru's expense. It is a wonder today that pro football survives. The Government is investigating into irregularities of the 15

pro clubs. Profits from drugs have long been suspected of being channelled through clubs. In January 1989 a referee was kidnapped for 24 hours. Match fixing like drug money is an open secret.

In 1987 Colombia lost to Portugal (the ultimate winners) in the quarter-finals of the World Youth Cup staged in Chile.

In 1989, after an eternity of 27 years, Colombia is back in the World Cup with a vengeance. Said the excited national team manager Francisco Mataruna: 'I am especially pleased because we can show the world that there is much more to Colombia than the stories of poverty and drugs would have the rest of the world



A young side, presently on a 'high'. Their star striker Carlos Valderrama is squawking (extreme right).

believe We are a happy people "

Their qualification for World Cup 1990 is no surprise The Colombian clubs are so rich, that they have become the biggest importers of South American footballers Twenty Argentines play in the league America of Cali were beaten finalists in the Copa Libertadores, for 3 years running 1985, 1986 and 1987 In 1989 Nacional of Medellin became the champion club of South America

This is the club that Mr Maturana manages And which provides eight of the national eleven So he has eight

MANAGER: Francisco Maturana
COLOURS: Red Shirts, blue shorts, yellow stockings
OR Blue shorts, yellow shirts and red stockings
OPPONENTS: Group D to be played in Milan and Bologna West Germany, Yugoslavia and the UAE
PREVIOUS WORLD CUP APPEARANCES: 1962
Eliminated in first round

players directly under his charge He held this post when Colombia finished an unlucky third in the 1987 Copa America Experts then rated Colombia, the finest national side in South America But they disappointed in the 1989 Copa America, when great things were expected from them

In goalkeeper Rene Higuita Colombia has the freakiest footballer in the world He's more than crazy He's Ramon Quiroga and Hug Gatti to the power of ten He

rushes out and plays as defender Takes penalty kicks And scores from them! One-man football revolution! And he's only 23 He's going to be big news in Italy 1990

In Luis Carlos Perea Colombia has a defender who is a tough one to beat

But Carlos Valderrama in the midfield is the star of Colombia and South America He looks like an African lion with his long blond hair, and thick short moustache He was voted 1987 player of the year in

South America and is going strong with Montpellier of France In defence, supporting sweeper Perea, are Gilardo Gomez (24), the elegant Andres Escobar (22) and the promising Leon Fernando Villa (30) - all three from Nacional

In the midfield, Nacional provide two regulars in Felipe Perez (22) and Leonal Alvarez, who is expected to do very well in Italy

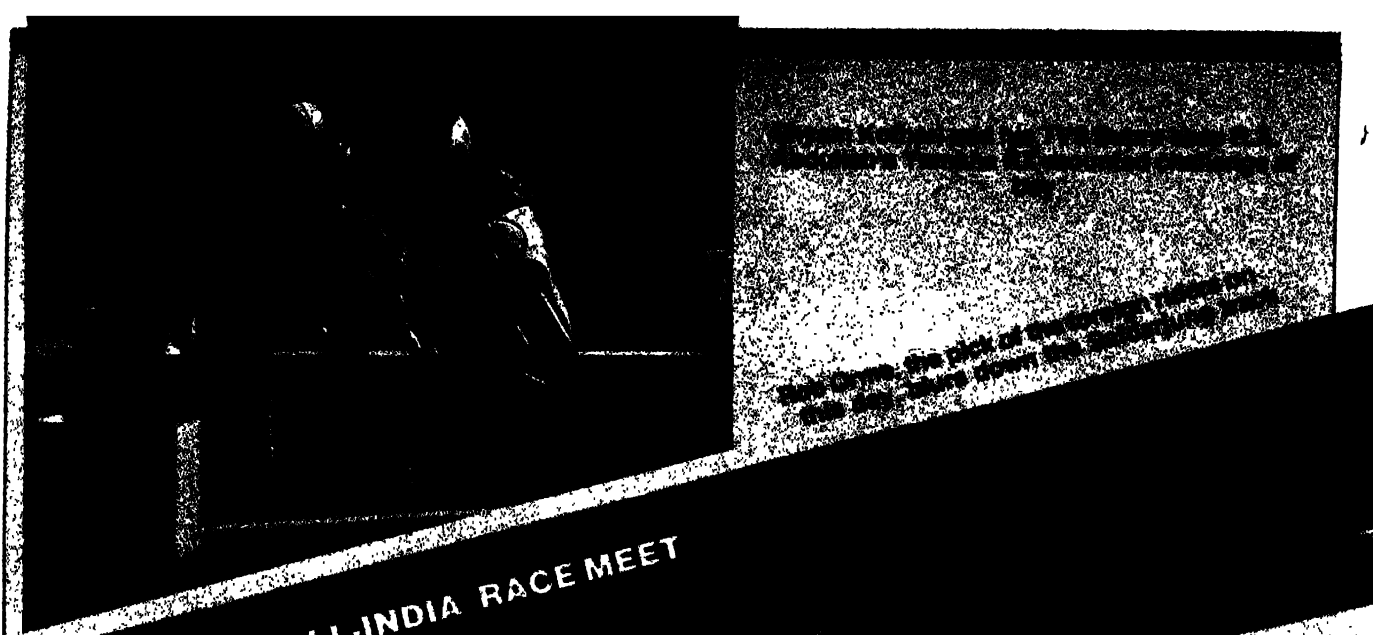
John Jairo Trellez is the most consistent striker who represented Colombia at the youth level and is only 22, Albeiro Usuriaga is the right winger flashy and inconsistent used mainly as a substitute

The rest of this exciting attacking and technical squad will be formed by players from America Cali Millionarios Bogota and Desportivo Cali Players like Sergio Angulo Alvarez Iguaran Cabrera Hernandez Hoyos Redin and others This team like some others still finds it hard to split a tight defence But with a set team and style Mr Maturana is a contented man All he needs is Carlos Valderrama who is not a Nacional Medellin player He is confident that Montpellier (France) will release him in time

Colombia is travelling to Italy without any inferiority complex As one of the best South American squads now it should give the Yugoslavs Germans and the UAE much more than a headache in Group D Or else it would be a big failure

By Pallab Mukherjee





SAFDARJUNG ALL-INDIA RACE MEET



THE SPEED MERCHANTS

In a category that attracted plenty of interest—the Formula Mani—W. Govindraj is hotly chased by Sunil Shanbag



GRAND PRIX racing's comeback to the Capital this year somehow seemed shorn of the fanfare that goes with this high speed sport. Not many, apart from those who would rather breathe exhaust fumes than the sterile oxygen provided by nature, were even aware of the happening until high-pitched whines filled the air as six categories for the bikes and five for cars covered everything from 60cc mopeds onwards.

For those watching over the spiraling developments in the Indian automotive industry the highly modified 350cc Escorts Yamaha twin cylinder bikes and the single-seater formula racers powered by the Maruti 800 engine held special interest. While nine foreign production 250cc racing bikes straddled by some of the finest riders from UK and FRG catered to those wanting a taste of real high-gear racing.

Running a close contest in the modified and unmodified 100 to 350cc classes were Team TVS Suzuki and the RX 100 fanatic Team Tantex. While ace Gurminder Singh, Subhash Chandra Bose and Shyam Kothari rode for TVS, R Devendra, Rohit Arora and M R Rajkumar put in a formidable opposition for Team Tantex. With Bose having recently defected over from Tantex to TVS, the traditional needle match between these two teams was somewhat weighed in favour of the latter. The only place where the Yamahas could bag top honour was in the 265-300cc class with no competition at all.

Stock car races, a predominantly Maruti 800 event, gave drivers like Akshaya Singhania, Mohit Puri and Satinder Singh a chance to prove their mettle on this new turf. Evidently, gone are the days when 75 year old battle-axes like Jangoo Nicholson



The stock car races were predominantly a Maruti 800 event

took on boys one-third his age at par.

Demonstrating what skilled craftsmanship can do, Karivardhan's Maruti engine powered indigenous Formula Racing Cars took to the track like a storm. Watching these sleek little monsters screaming around the track at speeds well above 100 kmph must have given the posted traffic policemen ulcers for not being able to challenge their love for Marutis being what it is. Albeit still a far cry from the real thing, these miniatures certainly represented the top form of the Indian automotive technology.

The Air India Grand Prix for foreign production racing bikes of 250cc capacity was the stellar event of the day, as usual. England's Robert Orme and Tom Hutton, both making a big name for themselves in the European circuits, and Hans Becker, the current German champion riding a 1990 model Yamaha TZ 250 seen for the first time on a race track, gave a spell binding display of riding ability. Orme finally managing to get his own back from Mark Westmorland, who had snatched the trophy in a neck to neck contest at the Juhu races a couple of weeks ago.

Curious Delhites lined along the track and traffic jammed at the adjoining flyover as motorists stopped to catch a bird's eye view of these magnificent men and their machines. Even the airport staff could be seen crowding the control-tower gallery soon as it was discovered to be the best seat in the house, not that the stands were all full. Those who had ventured out of their houses on this Sunday morning, at the cost of the Mahabharat and its clones, certainly got their money's worth watching these daredevils.

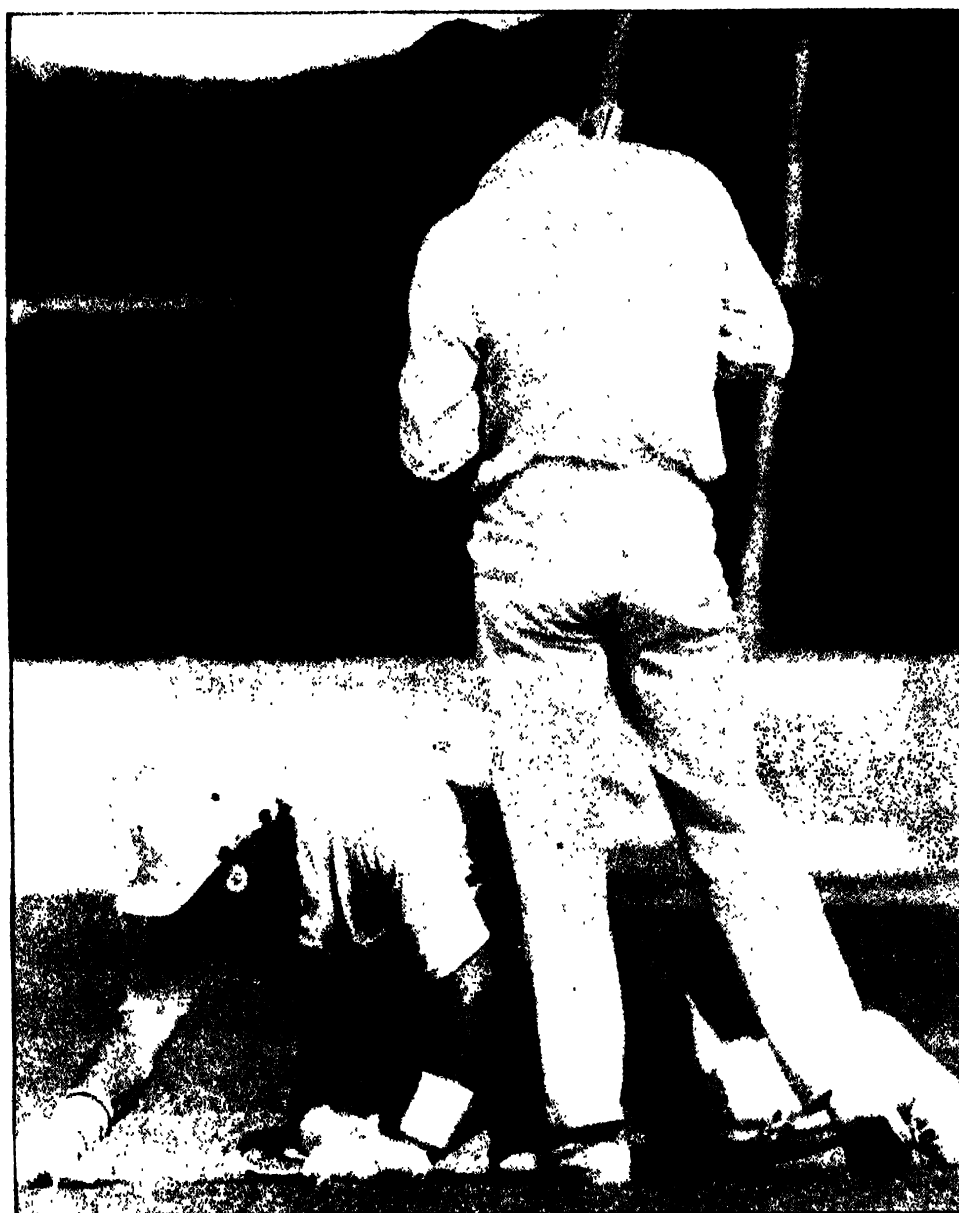
Text and photographs by Kumar Skanda



Curious fans check out the innards of a Formula Maruti

From the Frying Pan...

**WILL ENGLAND LOSE 0-6 IN THE WEST INDIES?
STEVEN LYNCH ATTEMPTS TO FIND OUT**



ON THE FACE of it, England's prospects in the forthcoming Test series in West Indies are slightly less rosy than the proverbial snowflake's chances in Hell. West Indies have won the last six series against England, two of them 5-0 'maximums', and have not lost a home rubber since Ian Chappell's Australians won 2-0 in 1972-73, distant days when the four-man pace attack was just a glint in Clive Lloyd's eye.

England's last visit, in 1985-86, started with optimism caused by a crushing Ashes victory at home against Allan Border's Australians. The optimism was misplaced, however, as England lurched to a 5-0 series defeat in the Caribbean. This time, England are undertaking the tour after one of the most demoralising seasons on record, and, in the eyes of many, have handicapped themselves by leaving two of their best players—Gower and Botham—at home.

The story of the coming weeks? Or will Gooch make Richards 'grovel'?

That said, wouldn't it have been a better idea to have avoided a beating by postponing the tour, to allow the battered England side time to rebuild? Australia's authorities, after all, decided a year or two ago that their youngsters weren't ready for a mauling by Marshall & Co., and put off their scheduled tour of West Indies now, having turned in some vastly improved performances the Australians feel themselves to be in a position to challenge.

Cancelling the tour, however, is hardly likely to have been discussed as a serious option by the TCCB, even though tours of West Indies are hardly great moneyspinners given the high cost of transportation and accommodation. England's chosen 16 will have to go into the bonfire: the first clash coming with two one-day internationals in Trinidad on March 14 and 17.

England's warm-up for the serious business—five Tests and five one-day games—is hardly comprehensive. Two three-day matches start off the tour, but once the internationals get under way there are only two more minor matches, plus a four-day match against a President's XI which is likely to be packed with three or four fast bowlers anxious to prove themselves worth a Test chance—hardly a rest cure.

A few jewels glimmer, however, in this generally gloomy picture. All the England batsmen are fine

strikers of the ball: the probable Test batting order of Gooch, Larkins, Bailey, Smith, Lamb and Hussain or Stewart will provide what runs they can obtain at a fair rate while Capel and DeFreitas will not hang around either, although there must be doubts about their ability to score runs against the constant diet of fast bowling they are likely to face.

The selectors have also been brave in electing to travel with no recognised reserve opener. The centre pages of this magazine last month catalogued the injuries caused by

the West Indian fast men, and rather too many of the injured parties were opening batsmen for the liking of Gooch and Larkins, who are being expected to do duty in all the major matches. With only Bailey and Stewart of the other batsmen having had a nodding acquaintance with the opening berths, it will not be particularly surprising to find a reinforcement—in the shape of John Stephenson, Michael Atherton or Darren Bicknell—arriving hotfoot from Zimbabwe in mid tour.

Jack Russell.

THE ITINERARY

Feb 2-5 v Leeward Islands (St Kitts)
8-11 v Windward Islands (St Lucia)
14 FIRST ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Port-of-Spain, Trinidad)
17 SECOND ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Port-of-Spain)
19-21 v Jamaica (Kingston)
24-March 1 FIRST TEST MATCH (Kingston)
3 THIRD ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Kingston)
6 FOURTH ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Georgetown, Guyana)
9-14 SECOND TEST MATCH (Georgetown)
17-20 v President's XI (Guaracara Park, Trinidad)
23-28 THIRD TEST MATCH (Port-of-Spain)
30-April 1 v Barbados (Bridgetown)
3 FIFTH ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Bridgetown)
5-10 FOURTH TEST MATCH (Bridgetown)
12-17 FIFTH TEST MATCH (St John's, Antigua).

England's unlikely batting hero of 1989, will be expected to grind out a few runs, though he will exceed expectations if he manages to repeat his characterful century at Old Trafford last year. Barring injury or an unlikely loss of form, Russell will take the gloves for all the Tests, with his deputy Stewart perhaps taking over for the one-day fixtures.

The selection of England's fast bowlers clearly indicates a wish to 'fight fire with fire'. England's answer to four West Indian fast bowlers is four West Indian-born fast bowlers in DeFreitas, Small, Elcock and Malcolm. The first pair are almost seasoned tourists now, but the selection of the other two is a calculated gamble. Barbados-born Elcock suffered with an injured back before impressing with Middlesex in the second half of the 1989 season, while Malcolm, originally from Jamaica, has undoubted pace but is occasionally decidedly wayward, it having been rather uncharitably said in the past that his first ship was often in more danger than the batsman.

If the shock bowlers fail to break through the bowling 'find' of 1989, Angus Fraser will be on hand to bottle up an end, although neither he nor allrounder Capel is likely to beat the West Indian batsmen for

'In my heart I wish the boys well, but my brain tells me 5-0'
...Ian Botham





sheer pace.

England's spin department is in the hands of veteran Eddie Hemmings, 41 this month, and the cheery, uncapped Surrey left-armed Keith Medlycott. At this stage it seems likely that the older man will get the nod in the Test, although both may feature at Port-of-Spain, where the pitch historically has helped the slow men in the past (Tony Greig, sending down his offcutters, took 13 wickets there in 1973-74 as England recorded their last Test victory to date against West Indies).

What, though, of West Indies, the formidable favourites? The batting order will have a familiar look, with the old firm of Greenidge and Haynes at the top, Greenidge having ended any doubt about his own participation by cutting short a club engagement in Australia.

Richardson, Logie and captain Richards will occupy three of the batting slots, leaving one position to be fought for by a fit-again Carl Hooper, Carlisle Best, Keith Arthurton, and less familiar names like Trinidad's Brian Lara, Delroy Morgan (Jamaica) or Sudesh Dhaniram of Guyana.

There were signs during the Nehru Cup that Jeff Dujon's wicketkeeping was declining, but his batting is likely to keep him in the side. He will have to look to his laurels, however, with his faithful deputy of recent tours, tiny David Gladstone Small has

many hours of hard bowling ahead of him

THE TEAM

England
Eddie Hemmings, R. C. Russell, G. C. Small, R. A. Smith, A. J. Stewart, P. M. Lush (manager), M. J. Stewart (team manager)

Williams, and the Windward Islander Junior Murray (bearer of a famous name among West Indian wicketkeepers) in line for a call-up if Dujon's decline is not a temporary hiccup.

In the fast-bowling department the home team's selectors are in the comfortable position of being able to perm any four names from seven or eight contenders. Before the tour, the likely pecking order among the quicks seemed to be Marshall, Ambrose, Walsh, Bishop, Benjamin, Patterson, Baptiste, Ferris... with more besides in reserve. Although Franklyn Stephenson has applied to the West Indian Board for reinstatement after the life bans imposed on those players who visited South Africa were lifted, it is unlikely that he will find a place in the Test side, although he and former 'rebel' tour colleagues

Faoud Bacchus and Ezra Moseley will probably be considered for domestic matches.

There are some new names, too, in West Indies' thinly-populated spin department. Jamaican Robert Haynes made an unspectacular start to his international career during the Nehru Cup, while another legspinner, Rajendra Dhanraj of Trinidad, is highly regarded. It will be a major surprise, however, if any of these or the two Guyanese offspinners, Roger Harper and Clyde Butts, plays more than a fleeting part in the series.

One interesting aspect of the series will be the fact that, for the first time, viewers in England equipped with the necessary satellite paraphernalia will be able to watch all the play live, while those with the more traditional earthbound TV equipment will be able to watch edited highlights, in itself a vast improvement on the coverage from previous tours.

Now for the crystal-ball-gazing. Ian Botham said 'In my heart I wish the boys well, but my brain tells me 5-0', and while I don't think that England will suffer another 'blackwash', it is hard to suggest an England series victory with anything but false optimism. However, the 1980s were without doubt the decade of the West Indies fast bowlers, so perhaps it's time for a change: maybe the 1990s will be the decade of England's West Indian fast bowlers.

National Events

Football Final of Rovers Cup Bombay Feb 7 15th All India Mohan Kumar amanglam Hind Zinc tournament Zawar Mines near Udaipur Jan 26 to Feb 5 9th Nai Dunia tournament Indore Feb 8 to 23 East Zone Federation Cup Sibsagar Assam Feb 22 onwards

Golf All India Junior Amateurs and All India sub juniors Bombay Feb 1 to 4 Charminar Challenge Open United Services Club Bombay Feb 15 to 18 Prize money worth Rs 75 000 BPGC Open Bombay Presidency Golf Club Feb 22 25 Prize money worth Rs 100 000

Table Tennis North Zone championships Hissar Haryana Feb 5-8 Central Zone championships Ajmer Feb 10-14

Tennis Satellite Masters Chandigarh Feb 12-18 All India Inter Zonal University Championships Dhanbad Jan 31 to Feb 4

Badminton All India Inter Institutional Championships Durgapur Feb 11-15

Athletics Indira Marathon Allahbad Feb 4

Hockey Final of Gujarmal Modi Memorial Tournament Sports Stadium Meerut Feb 4

Volleyball Federation Cup Gajsinghpur Rajasthan Feb 18-25

Netball 2nd Asian Women's Championships Delhi Feb 23-27

Cricket Ranji Trophy pre quarter finals Feb 2 to 5 Ranji Trophy quarter finals Feb 16-19 Vijay Hazare Trophy Cuttack February 4 onwards

International Events

Hockey 7th World Cup Lahore Feb 12-23 12

PREVIEW

teams to participate Pool

A consists of India Argentina Australia France Netherlands and USSR Pool B consists of Canada England West Germany Ireland Pakistan and Spain The following is the schedule Feb 12 India vs USSR Pakistan vs Spain Holland vs France Feb 13 Australia vs Argentina Holland vs USSR West Germany vs Canada and Pakistan vs Ireland Feb 14 India vs Argentina France vs Australia England vs Canada West Germany vs Spain Feb 15 India vs France Spain vs England Feb 16 Ireland vs West Germany USSR vs Australia Pakistan vs Canada Holland vs Argentina Feb 17 India vs Holland Spain vs Ireland France vs USSR Pakistan vs England Feb 18 India vs Australia Spain vs Canada France vs Argentina England vs West Germany Feb 19 Ireland vs Canada USSR vs Argentina Holland vs Australia Pakistan vs West Germany Feb 21 Semi finals—II Pool A vs I Pool B I Pool A vs II Pool B Feb 23 Final 1st European Indoors Club Championships for men and women Amsterdam Holland Feb 23-25

Cricket India's tour of New Zealand Itinerary for February Feb 2-6 vs New Zealand 1st Test at Christchurch Feb 9-13 vs New Zealand 2nd Test at Napier Feb 16-19 vs Northern Districts at Hamilton Feb 22-26 vs New Zealand 3rd Test at Auckland Pakistan's tour of Australia Itinerary for

February Feb 3-7 vs Australia 3rd Test at Sydney World Series Cup Itinerary for February Feb 10 Pakistan vs Sri Lanka at Brisbane Feb 11 Australia vs Pakistan at Brisbane Feb 13 Australia vs Pakistan at Brisbane Feb 15 Pakistan vs Sri Lanka at Hobart Feb 17 Pakistan vs Sri Lanka at Adelaide Feb 18 Australia vs Sri Lanka at Adelaide Feb 20 Australia vs Pakistan at Sydney Feb 23 1st final at Melbourne Feb 25 2nd final at Sydney Feb 27 3rd final at Sydney England's tour of West Indies Itinerary for February Feb 2-5 vs Leeward Islands at St Kites Feb 8 11 vs Windward Islands at St Lucia Feb 14 vs West Indies 1st one day international at Port of Spain Trinidad and Tobago Feb 17 vs West Indies 2nd one day international at Port of Spain Feb 19-21 vs Jamaica at Kingston Jamaica Feb 24-March 1 vs West Indies 1st Test at Kingston Jamaica England A's tour of Kenya and Zimbabwe Itinerary for February Feb 10 vs Kenya one day international at Nairobi Feb 11 vs Kenya one day international at Nairobi Feb 18 vs Zimbabwe districts at Harare South Feb 20-22 vs Young Zimbabwe at Mutare Feb 24 vs Zimbabwe 1st one day international at Harare Feb 25 vs Zimbabwe 2nd one day international at Harare Feb 27-March 1 vs Zimbabwe B at Harare South

Boxing Mike Tyson vs James Buster Douglas Tokyo Feb 10 for the undisputed world

heavyweight title Jeff Harding (Australia) vs Nestor Geovanini (Argentina) for the world middleweight title Atlanta City USA February 25

Athletics Daily Crest Games UK vs East Germany Kelvin Hall Glasgow February 23 Scotland vs Belgium vs Ireland vs Wales vs Norway Kelvin Hall Glasgow Feb 17 **Swimming** FINA World Cup meet Berlin East Germany Feb 5-7 Bonn West Germany Feb 9-11 Gothenburg Sweden Feb 13-15 Venice Feb 16-18 and Leicester England Feb 23-25

Football Littlewoods Cup semi final Nottingham Forest vs Coventry City 1st leg on Feb 13 and 2nd Leg on Feb 27

Tennis Davis Cup world Group 1st round matches from Feb 2-4 Ebel US Indoor championships Philadelphia Feb 19 25 Canadian Indoor championships Toronto Feb 12 18

Television Live telecast of India's matches in 7th World Cup Hockey Tournament (for details see schedule in national events) Live telecast of final of Rovers Cup Football Tournament at Bombay on Feb 7 Live telecast of finals of Satellite Masters Tennis Championships at Chandigarh on Feb 18

Radio: Running commentary in both Hindi and English on India's matches in the 7th World Cup hockey tournament (see detailed schedule in national events) Running commentary on semi finals and final of Rovers Cup Football Tournament at Bombay

Running commentary in both Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Gujarmal Modi Hockey tournament at Meerut
compiled by NOVY KAPADIA

Rude Shock

THE decision of the BCCI to dethrone Srikanth from the pedestal on rather flimsy and frivolous reasons has come as a rude shock to all the cricket fans in India. The action of the selectors, at this juncture, is nothing short of preposterous.

In his brief stint as captain, Srikanth has acquitted himself creditably. Thanks to his



K. Srikanth

predecessor, Dilip Vengsarkar, the morale of the team was at an all time low. But Srikanth managed to change all that. Even though he did not enhance his team's performance to 'winning' levels, he could at least salvage some prestige by 'drawing' the Test series. That is an achievement in itself.

The selectors have really

outclassed their own stupidity by selecting an inexperienced team under the guise of 'having an eye on the future.'

SUBHA CHANDRAN,
Madras.

No Confidence

IT is high time that the people of this country revolt against Raj Singh and Co. A 'No-Confidence' motion should be mooted against our selectors.

It was utterly disgusting of Raj Singh and Co. to have sacked Srikanth from the captaincy and then adding insult to injury, they dropped him from the team!

T KETAN,
Arunachal Pradesh

Good Reading

THE interview with Raj Singh Dungarpur (*Sportsworld*, 17 Jan) (I was happy that this time there was no walkout!) made very good reading. Although he says that the Board has not been vindictive in the selection of the team, his tone of answering says it all. I think he has a very personalised stand on most issues.

It does not augur well for the future of Indian cricket
RAHUL MISRA,
Sambalpur

Surprising

SRIKKANTH's elevation to the captaincy was as surprising as Azharuddin's elevation to the coveted post. By their action, it is clear the selectors fear the trade unionism of the senior cricketers.

Normally, after Vengsarkar, it should have been Ravi Shastri, but instead he was named Srikanth's deputy on the tour to Pakistan.

Anyway, whatever it is, we wish the tall, slim and unassuming Azharuddin all the very best.
FANKAJ KUMAR MISHRA,
Madhubani.

Congrats

HEARTIEST congratulations to Paraguay's soccer team, 'Olimpia.' They are the most

deserving team in the Nehru Cup. They showed great fighting spirit and the Indian football team should be able to learn a lot from them.

ARGHYA CHOWDHURY,
Jalpaiguri.

Good

YOUR Sportsworld issue (20 December) was very good. Right from the profile of The New Muhammad Ali to the last page, 'Freewheeling,' it was all very interesting. The Tour Preview by Mudar Patherya was very good. Not only Patherya but all the other writers in the magazine are very good.

After reading this issue and some previous issue, I have no hesitation in saying that *Sportsworld* is the best sports magazine in India
B. MANJUNATH HEGDE,
Mangalore

New Policy

WITH the start of a new decade, the AAFI should adopt a new policy. They should gear their training schedule in order that the athletes train to do well outside Asia. By giving such huge rewards for medals won in Asian meets, it has killed the initiative of the athletes to perform well outside Asia.

It is time that like the BCCI, the AAFI should mould a new team for the 1990's
AMIT KR DAS,
Calcutta.

Well Done

I WOULD like to congratulate *Sportsworld* (27 Dec. '89) for giving us the information regarding the drama behind the non-consideration of Narendra Hirwani for the Pakistan tour. It is sad that this man was ignored especially when he has bagged 42 wickets in a mere seven Tests.

I started reading Sportsworld only for the chess column but now I read each and every article in the magazine.
M.S. NAGARAJA,
Mysore.

GOODRICKE'S INTERNATIONAL CHESS OPEN

CHESS VISIT

For days, chess fans trained their sights on Calcutta and the strongest tournament of its kind in Asia

O

VERSHADOWED by the International Film Festival and Mohammedan Sporting's heroics in the Nehru Cup, another important event in Calcutta—the Goodricke's International Chess Open—was relegated to the background. The strongest Swiss event to be held in Asia, the tournament featured eight nations with six-figure prize money at stake and leading the field were seven Grandmasters, 12 International Masters and two women IMs.

There are two types of international chess tournaments. One is invitational and the other the Open Swiss system. In the invitational system 10 to 14 players play in a round-robin format where the fixtures are known well in advance, resulting in intense, well prepared games. The catch is, only established players are invited. So what happens to the young hopefuls? They have to resort to the Open Swiss system where improvisation is the keyword. The other catch is, there are no International Swissses in India. Or rather there weren't any before this event.

Amazingly, the top seed for this

tournament was an IM, ahead of seven GMs including the women's world champion, Maya Chiburdanidze. The latest product of the Russian assembly line, the Leningrad-based Leonid Yudasin, who scored his fifth GM norm by a one point margin and needs only two GM norms to be eligible for the title, is an over-achiever. He has done it so fast that the title has yet to catch up with him.

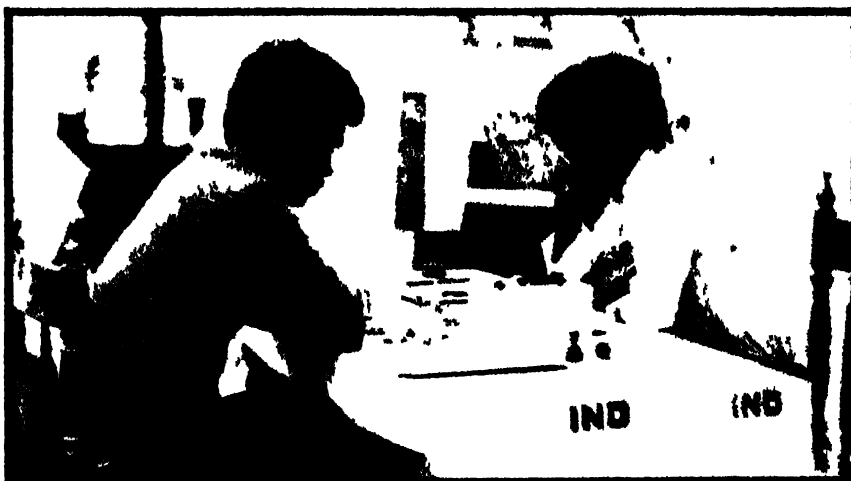
Yudasin played rather like a boxer who outpoints his victims never letting them slug it out from close range. Seven wins interspersed with three fraternal draws mowed down the opposition. In the last round with nothing at stake, he settled for a quick draw with third placed GM David Norwood (England).

D.V. Prasad (left) and Dibyendu Barua of India. While Prasad played rock solid chess, Barua missed his second GM norm

In the opinion of many including Norwood, Yudasin played like a potential world title challenger. His best displays came up against GM Eugene Torres (Philippines) whom he beat with black and against Pravin Thipsay of India. Winning the Goodricke's Open was 'not difficult', he commented.

Thipsay, who had beaten GM Gufeld, had a chance for a GM norm till he met Yudasin in the penultimate round. However, an impeccable strategic display from the top seed wiped out Thipsay from an almost equal opening.

The only other GM norm came from second placed and seeded, Vadim Ruban of USSR. Norwood on the other hand, impressed as a creative attacking player who goes straight for the jugular. Producing remarkable sacrificial attacks against Ruban and Maya Chiburdanidze, he however, lost





to Ruban after incredibly missing a forced checkmate and conceded the draw to Chirburdanidze. It always happens to me against Russians, was his only explanation for both losses: games he should have won.

Eugene Torres, Asia's first GM, started playing a round late, all the more credit for his professional display which dragged him into joint third with Norwood. He beat GM Valentin Lukov (Bulgaria) who looked to be off form in the last round, and also played an exciting draw with Gufela where both displayed great endgame technique.

Swiss system fixtures always lead to multiple ties. This was no exception as seven people tied for the fifth spot, a point admit of Torres and Norwood. They included most of the foreign contingent except for the off form GMs Istvan Csom (Hungary) and Lukov and three Indians: Thipsay D V Prasad and local lad Dibyendu Barua.

Prasad played rock solid chess throughout and came close to his

Leonid Yudasin and GM Maya Chirburdanidze share a private joke

maiden GM norm. If he had won after outplaying Norwood, it would have produced the necessary impetus. As it is, he finished on a high, checkmating Csom in the last round.

Barua missed what would have been his second GM norm. It is notable in Barua's case that his greatest achievements have come abroad rather than on home ground. White may be the reason: he lost twice (Chirburdanidze and Thipsay, both of whom are lower rated).

Maya Chirburdanidze and her coach Gufela, both of Tbilisi, Georgia, turned in well thought out performances, both losing just the one game and winning four. While the lady's best win was against Barua, Gufela's most notable game was his 11-hour marathon against Sekhar Sahu, whom he outwitted in the last round.

Both Pravin and Bhagyashree Thipsay had good displays and

looked capable of scoring their second norms. Possibly in the near future they will do it together, as befits a married couple. This time they both faded out together unfortunately.

Murshed, an old hand in Calcutta chess, did little of note this time.

IM Lanka Ravi is worthy of special mention. The fact that he beat two GMs (the hapless Csom and Lukov) clearly shows his potential to go places. Unfortunately he lost momentum after losing a hard fight to Yudasin, and a last round loss to Zia ur Rahman put him out of the prize list.

This tournament was also the first non-smoking event. Since Fide imposed the ban on January 1, 1990, Inmact, lately organised by Alekhine Chess Club, the playing conditions were nearly ideal. For the first time also one witnessed cooperation by both the Central and State governments which helped smooth things out.

BY DEVANGSHU DUTTA

BRIDGE TOC

**SANTANU GHOSH took a train to out-of-the-way Kakinanda
Andhra Pradesh, to play and write on the tournament**

KAKINADA is a small fishing village in Andhra Pradesh. The only bridge people have ever heard of is the one which they have to cross to get to the adjourning village. So, for those who had been to the last two well-organised nationals in the comfort of the Netaji Indoor at Calcutta and the Indira Gandhi Indoor in Delhi, Kakinada was a sad experience. Heat and dust one could tolerate but the unclean toilets, the lack of adequate arrangements for food at the venue and, on top of everything, the lackadaisical approach of the directorial staff, resulting in umpteen foul-ups, necessitating committee meetings to find solutions in near-impossible situations and causing delay and inconvenience to all, was too much to bear with one's temper intact. However, I must congratulate the organisers for arranging computer scoring for the pairs events. But here also there was no check on the correctness of the scores entered nor on the preservation of the official score-cards. This might have affected the outcome of one pairs event where a pair claimed their scores were wrongly entered, but the score-cards which could prove or disprove their claim were not traceable! I appreciate the difficulties faced by the organisers in a place lacking the infra-structure for such a big tournament — more than one thousand players took part — but to hold the championship at such a place was certainly not the brightest of ideas.

The championship encompassed four events. The two main ones were the Open Teams for the Ruia Trophy and the Open pairs for the Holkar. In addition, there were the Singhanla Trophy for the Board-a-match teams and the various categorised pairs events. For the last several years the championship has become almost an annual battle for supremacy between Calcutta and Bombay and this year was no exception. However, with many of the leading players from Bombay conspicuous by their absence (also several leading players from Delhi) due to lack of direct rail and air link, Calcutta made practically a clean sweep of all titles, at least the major ones.

My erstwhile partners Gobinda Singha and Karnal Mukherjee started off the sweep with a win in the prestigious Life Masters' section in the categorised pairs event while Calcutta's Prakash Kejriwal and Hyderabad's S.S. Inamdar joined forces to lift the National Masters' title. In fact, the only events in which Calcutta did not feature among the winners



Suparna, winners of the Ruia Open Teams & runners-up in the Singhanla Teams. (L. to R.) Sudhir Ganguly, Ranen Ghosh, Som Nath Chatterjee, Sukumar Bannerjee And Sunil Bhattacharjee (absent: Dilip Dutta). Ganguly and Ghosh won the Holkar Open Pairs also

were the two lesser categorised events, the Masters', and the non-Masters', the latter won nevertheless by a pair of youngsters from Chandannagore, Sukamal Das-A.N. Bannerjee, who had only a few months ago finished third in the Open Pairs event in the Bengal State championship.

The young Bombay pair of Subir Roy and Shashi Limaye led the field going into the forty-sixth board but their dreams of a national title was rudely shattered on this last board by an opponent who himself had no chance but pushed them back to second place by bidding a poor slam that made with the aid of two successful finesses. This left the field clear for Sudhir Ganguly and Ranen Ghosh to lift the Holkar for a double.

That brings me to the Ruia Teams, the blue riband

FAR

e-horse town in



The Results

RUJA OPEN TEAMS

- 1 SUPARNA
Sudhir Ganguly, Ranen Ghosh, Som Nath Chatterjee, Dilip Dutta Sunil Bhattacharjee, Sukumar Banerjee
- 2 ORKAY
Inder Pal Singh, Puneet Gangal J M Shah Iyengar
- 3-4 RAILWAY SCB
Prithvi Kushan, Manas Mukherjee, Mittal, Tapas Audhya Mokashi Sujit Bhattacharjee
- 3-4 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK
Jimmy Mehta, Sharad Mhatre P Rampuria Archie Sequira, Anil Pandhye Ravi Dudhane

HOLKAR OPEN PAIRS

- 1 Sudhir Ganguly—Ranen Ghosh
- 2 Subir Roy—Shashi Limaye
- 3 Satyasaaran—Tiwar

SINGHANIA BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS

- 1 MALIRAM SANTHALIA MEMORIAL CLUB
Sant Kumar Santhalia, Bikash Roy Nirmalya Dutta Gopal Choudhury Prakash Kejriwal Sali Siddhanta
- 2 SUPARNA
Sudhir Ganguly Sunil Bhattacharjee Dilip Dutta Som Nath Chatterjee Sukumar Banerjee Ranen Ghosh
- 3 AGARWAL
Subhash Agarwala S S Inamdar Sushil Agarwal Vijay Agarwal L K Saboo Ramani

LIFE MASTER'S PAIRS

- 1 Gobinda Singha-Kamal Mukherjee

NATIONAL MASTERS' PAIRS

- 1 S S Inamdar—Prakash Kejriwal

NON MASTERS' PAIRS

- 1 Sukamal Das-Amar Nath Banerjee

of Indian bridge. A total of 198 teams (rather less than usual) had assembled at Kakinada for this event which gives everybody an opportunity of playing for at least four days on equal terms with the best in the country. After 22 rounds of Swiss league during these four days the top 24 teams were promoted to the pre-quarter final round. As the round of 24 was about to start on the fifth day there was chaos! Play was held up as the DISCO team from Asansol alleged that they had qualified but had been eliminated due to the negligence of the directors. After a long delay the committee was convinced of the correctness of their stand and declared them qualified much to the annoyance and frustration of the 25th team who had been earlier declared qualified and now had to go out.

The final was not up to expectations as far as the standard of play goes but was thrilling nevertheless.

Orkay started with a carry over of 267 imp (international match point) but the lead sawed quite frequently. Suparna's S N Chatterjee & Bhattacharjee had a misunderstanding playing in two hearts in a 2-1 fit for a penalty of 200 against a

slam and going down in a slam on a 5-1 fit with slam cold in a 5-2 fit and in no trumps. However Orkay failed to capitalise on these mistakes and it was Suparna who led by 21-33 imp with a session to go. In that last set Ranen Ghosh made a vulnerable overcall on a shabby suit going for 1100 and after some more losses Suparna trailed by 19-67 with three boards to go. At this crucial juncture Orkay finally paid the price for having only a 4 member team. With the Ruja trophy veritably in their bag fatigued told on some of them as Shah Iyengar allowed a game to make for 11 imp away and then J M Shah (one of the best players in India) had a blackout passing a forcing bid to stop in a partial with a grand slam on. Suparna had won the Ruja by the narrowest margin ever 2-33 imp. One does feel sad for the Orkay quartet who fought so gallantly and were certainly no less deserving of the title but there can only be one winner!

Congratulations to the winning sextet of Sudhir Ganguly, Ranen Ghosh, Dilip Dutta, Sunil Bhattacharjee, Sukumar Banerjee and Som Nath Chatterjee all of whom (with the exception of Sudhir) were winning the Ruja for the first time.



England's Christie pipes
his rivals to
win the 100m gold.
On his right is
Canadian Bruny



African Athletes. And Sprinters Too!

FAMILIAR African athletes such as Kepchoge (1500m, 5000m), Ben Jipcho (steeplechase), Filbert Bayi and Olympic champions like Peter Rono (1500m) and Paul Ereng suggest that Africa's strength lies in long distance. This notion is strengthened by the stories we have read of the barefoot running these athletes did to get to school, which laid the foundation for their future, or the high altitude of countries like Kenya.

But African nations, especially Nigeria and Kenya, have been in the forefront from earlier times. Athletes like Serephino Antao's double gold in the 100m and 200m at the Perth Commonwealth Games in 1962 is a case in point, or Charles Asati, another double medal winner in Edinburgh in

Sprinting, and American or European athletes are synonomous in most peoples minds. Often very little is said about the sprinting achievements of African countries

1986, winning gold and bronze.

It may be that these achievements have been few and far between, or not winning gold in a glamour event has clouded their achievements. Another suggestion could be the lack of consistency on the part of the sprinters vis-a-vis the long distance counterparts.

It is hindsight that has made the African nations conscious of their sprinting talents? After all, the

American sprinters, who are mostly black, have their roots in Africa.

The winner of the gold medal in the Commonwealth Games men's 100m is Linford Christie, a black African from the U.K. and the 400m hurdles winner K. Akabusi is Nigerian born, now living in England.

A second point is that most of them come from social backgrounds similar to the Africans but, on the other hand, says Tobias Igwe, the Nigerian national coach at the Games: "Sprinters are now coached very scientifically".

What has been the result?

A group of young sprinters are clocking faster times.

Nigeria had three athletes in the 100m finals in Auckland. Davidson Ezenwa clocked 10.05 to claim the silver medal. This was

what he clocked in the national trials in Nigeria. A. Tetingi clocked 10.20 and Davidson's twin brother clocked 10.35. Davidson and his twin brother are only 18 years old and now plan to go to the United States to train. Linford Christie says that these two were the finest prospects in this sport.

So also, S. Kitur (silver medallist) and S. Kipkimboi (bronze medallist) in the 400m, are future world champions. In the women's flat long-striding Yusuf won, with Charity Opara only 17 years a creditable bronze.



Myrtle Augue upset Judy Oakes in the women's shot put

So African nations are becoming consistent in producing a crop of young sprinters with world class times.

The roots are bearing the fruit in the mother country and bringing glory to Africa, it's true home.

By Robin Paul in Auckland

From Army Obstacle Course To Commonwealth Hurdler

KRISS AKABUSI, gold medallist in the 400m hurdles at the Auckland Commonwealth Games used his sharp competitive spirit developed in the Army's cross-country and obstacle courses as a stepping stone to fame.

Akabusi's parents came to England from Nigeria to study in 1955. (Akabusi was born in 1958). When his parents returned to their homeland to teach, they thought their son would get a better education if he remained in England.

Although he was a keen sportsman in school Akabusi says it was not until he joined the Army that he was singled out because he was always at the front of training runs.

Kriss joined the Army at the age of 16 and by 19 he was running the 400m. He became Britain's no. 1 400m runner with a time of 44.93 sec. He was instrumental in helping Britain win a gold medal in the 4 x 400m relay at Helsinki World Championships and a silver medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

They why did he switch to hurdling?

"Quite frankly, by 1987, from being No. 1 in Britain, I dropped to the no.5 spot. There were a lot of younger athletes coming up, so I switched to the 400m hurdles."

By this time, Kriss, in his Army career, had moved up to the rank of a Warrant Officer. He married German-born Monica, a ballet dancer and a sports enthusiast herself. They have two children, Ashanti (5 1/2 years old) and Shakina (2 years old).

Nigerian national coach Tobias Igwe spoke of the inspiration that Kriss is to Nigerian athletes and the plan of the Nigerian Athletic Association to invite Kriss and other Nigerian-born athletes



back home.

Now Kriss is a 400m hurdler. Did it make a difference?

Kriss says "Yes, there was a difference. While the 400m involved more speed and endurance, the 400m hurdles called for far more technique."

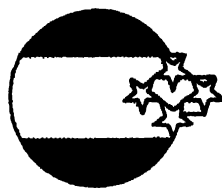
Akabusi's unique ability to see every obstacle as an opportunity for improvement saw each hurdle he had to jump with a positive frame of mind. In the 400m, it was just pain all the way for Kriss, but in the hurdles, the 10 hurdles, every 35 steps broke the monotony of pain to make the race more enjoyable.

That was exactly how he won the hurdles in Auckland. Every step he took with determination and joy, brushing aside the competition of Henry Amike (Gambia) and Samuel Maitate (Jamaica) to win the gold.

Kriss in athletics, as Michael Chang in tennis, insists that his talent is God-given and hence runs for God's pleasure. Furthermore, it's not celebrity status he is aiming for, but rather using the celebrity status as a role model to youth around the world for a cleaner and more positive approach to life.

May his breed increase.

Robin Paul



Auckland Scribbles

TRANS-TASMAN neighbours Australia and New Zealand share an undercurrent of sports-related hostility that surfaces from time to time. Evidence of this came on the first day of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation in Auckland when Australian Chef de mission Arthur Tunstall bitterly criticised the organisers of the XIV Games. At the meeting, he called New Zealand the seventh state of Australia and criticised the organisers for not providing cars to delegates like him 24 hours a day. The comments were clearly in very poor taste.

■ ALL sports have their quota of bad losers but on the opening day of the swimming competitions Canadian Kevin Draxinger tried to spoil a poolside Kiwi celebratory party by running up and down in front of the TV cameras with the Canadian flag. So peeved was Kiwi swimmer Simon Percy that he grabbed the flag and chucked it into the pool. Draxinger swiftly dived to retrieve it and was followed by a poolside chair. Officials intervened to diffuse the situation.

■ NOT surprisingly the hi-tech Henderson Swimming Complex has been the venue of hi fashion. The tighter and the teenier the togs the better. Or so, at least some of the Canadian and Welsh swimmers would have us believe. "Swimwear is really following the whole fashion thing," Welsh swimmer Julia Henwood was quoted by an Auckland daily as saying. "And it really doesn't bother me if the guys gawk. I'm used to wearing these skimpy swimsuits."

Canadian Blair Hicken told his enquirers that the smaller the togs the better because "you do not get air bubbles in the back and you therefore go faster." New Zealand runner Barbara Moore has pioneered a one piece body hugging suit which stood out at the practice arena where all the other girls were in "traditional" shorts and singlets.

And talking of singlets, Olympic silver medalist sprinter Ianford Christie stopped traffic much before the athletics competitions opened. His singlet is cut out to look like a TV screen from his breastbones down to just above his navel. Flo Jo move over, there's more revealing times ahead.

■ THE hosts of the Games dispensed with a drug testing lab and cut costs by some Rs 1.98 million (one New Zealand dollar is roughly equal to 12 Indian rupees). Urine samples of some 400 participants were flown to Sydney for dope checks. Place winning athletes are to be tested randomly and in team events at least one of the medal winning members will have submitted a urine sample for checking. Results of the tests took 31 hours coming.

■ Much before the competitions began the Scots laid claim to at least three titles for the tallest, the shortest and the oldest man at the Games. High jumper Geoff Parsons stands 2

Sharon Davis: the new trend in swim suits



metres in his socks (yes, he had to have a special bed made for himself at the Village), at 67 marksman Arthur Clare is the oldest competitor, weightlifter Alexander McFarlane is a scant 1.45 metres tall but is the British champion in the 52 kg class (McFarlane finished fifth and last in his event)



Zoran Thanga: pint-sized powerhouse

■ **ZORAN THANGA** like some of the Indian weightlifters is a pint-sized powerhouse. Reflecting on how he decimated his opponent from the Cook Islands in the flyweight boxing championship on the opening day, Thanga said he almost blew it when he slipped less than a minute into round one. The referee from Ghana thought I had been floored by a blow from my opponent when in fact I had slipped on my own. The ref insisted on giving me a mandatory count. The lad from Manipur said it got him so mad that he decided to leave nothing to chance thereafter and just waded into his opponent from the Cook Islands. It was all over in 103 seconds when the referee stepped in to tear Thanga away from his dazed opponent. The Indian national met Canadian Graham McKintosh in the next round and

■ **AUCKLAND** is the venue of three matches of the 1991 World Cup Cricket Championship that is to be jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand. Two of the round robin matches including the tournament opener between Australia and New Zealand are to be held here one of the two semi-finals too is slated for Auckland's well appointed cricket ground Eden Park

■ **THE** mercury in thermometres has been hovering around the 27 degree Celsius mark over the last two days prompting local newspapers to describe it as a heatwave sweeping Auckland. Media Centre volunteer Gaskin Perry cannot believe Delhi in summer can reach upwards of 45 degrees C. "Can you fry eggs on your terrace?" he asks incredulously

■ **RAJEEV BAGGA** is the only one among the seven members of the Indian badminton team who has played in New Zealand before. He won the men's singles and doubles at the Olympic Games for the deaf and mute here last year. Currently India's No. 3 ranked men's singles player, Bagga partners Sanjay Sharma in the men's doubles here. The pair has not done too well and, as Bagga confessed to this correspondent, he prefers playing singles and he plans to work harder at becoming India's No. 1 singles player. It is a bit of a handicap playing doubles because the benefit of a partner's yell to signal 'out' or 'no' from the backcourt when you in the forecourt can be considerable. Like most mute persons Bagga is a fine lip reader. This Calcutta-born Bombay resident is not yet 22 and has time to realise his dream of becoming the No. 1 men's singles player

■ **BUT** the distinction of being the smallest (perhaps) and youngest (certainly) competitor went to Ermelinda Duarte of Gibraltar. She is just 13 years old and is a freestyle specialist (personal best before Auckland 1.08.68)

■ **THE** Indian victories at weightlifting has done great wonders to the country's stocks inside the Athletes' Village and outside. At the Media Centre, for example, it was not uncommon for someone who has read "India" on the identification card hanging from your neck to remark "Gee, you guys doing pretty good at the weights. Good on you, mate." If there is an element of incredulity that you detect in your well-wisher's voice it is because our weightlifters, at least in the lower categories, look awfully small built. Indian expatriate Rakha Mistry summed up the undercurrent of disbelief when, as Chandrasekaran Gopal and their teammates walked into Gandhi Hall, she remarked "If you did not tell me they were weightlifters I would never have believed those chaps had actually beaten all those huge Canadians and Englishmen." Ms Mistry insisted on a keepsake picture with the pocket dynamo

By Ashok Kamath



**A MATCHLESS BLEND OF
TASTE & FLAVOUR FOR YOU**

PRABHAT ZARDA PRODUCTS

STATUTORY WARNING: CHEWING OF TAMA TOBACCO IS DANGEROUS TO HEALTH

Christie
Linford lived up
his pre-race high
confidence
when he won the
100m with ease. (His
time: a wind-assisted
9.93 secs—one
hundredth of a second
outside Carl Lewis'
world record) ▼



▲ Jamaica's Merlene Ottey
hardly strained to win the
women's 100m in a time
of 11.02 secs

COLONSPORT



COLONSPORT



▲ Adrain Moorhouse won
the 100m breaststroke but
he was disappointed
because he had just
managed to equal his
own world record

CRICKET
SMALL-TALK
FROM AROUND
THE WORLD

EXTRAS

Beer Boon

TEST batsman David Boon was criticised by doctors in Australia after it emerged that he had established a new 'record' by consuming 58 cans of lager during the flight to England before last year's Ashes series. Previous record-holder Rod Marsh was said to be miffed that a longer-than-planned stopover in Bahrain had given Boon more time to attack the record.

Trueman leaves the fast lane

IT was disclosed in the *News of the World* that Fred Trueman, 58, the commentator and former Yorkshire and England fast bowler, had confessed to an affair with a 38-year-old Kent woman who was claiming that she was expecting his baby. Trueman and his wife, Veronica, were quoted as saying that their 17-year marriage would not be affected by the five-year relationship, which was now at an end.

Gower and Girlfriend separate

DAVID GOWER announced his separation from his fiancée with an item in the personal columns of *The Times* on Jan 3. It read: 'David Gower and Vicky Stewart would like to put themselves and their friends out of their misery and confirm that sadly they have decided to separate as amicably as possible and go their own ways. As the matter has already been the subject of speculation by some members of the Press, they hope that his brief announcement will obviate the need for further comment. (Fat... chance!)' The couple had been together for 12 years. It rounded off a miserable year for Gower who, as 1990 dawned, was considering offers to leave Leicestershire and play for either Hampshire or Kent.

Remaining Constant

AFTER missing last season, David Constant has regained his place on the panel of umpires for this summer's Tests. The other addition to the panel (from which Ken Palmer is rested) is the former Somerset batsman Mervyn Kitchen.

'And Arlott drives....'

COMMENTATOR John Arlott, 75, was fined £25 and agreed to give up driving after hitting a parked car on the island of Alderney.

MONUMENT NAMED



Ranji records

MEDIUM-PACER Javagal Srinath, making his first appearance for Karnataka in their Ranji Trophy match against Hyderabad, became the fifth Indian to take a hat-trick on his first class debut

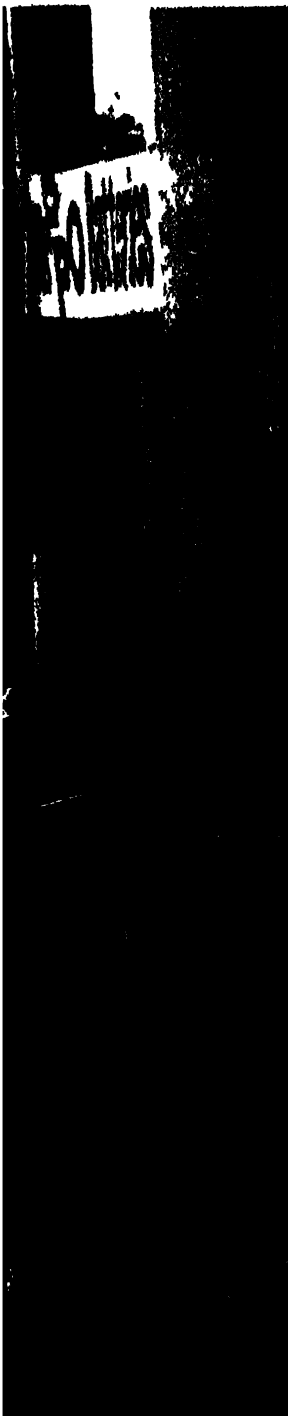
Satish Shinde scored 144 out of Goa's second innings of 175 in the Ranji Trophy match against Hyderabad at Margao. His contribution of 82.28% of his side's runs has been exceeded in first class cricket only by Glenn Turner's 83.4% (141 out of 169) for Worcestershire v Glamorgan in 1977

Tailpiece

NEVILLE WALKER and Renee Chignell have both received life jail sentences for the murder of Auckland cricket umpire Peter Plumley Walker whose death was reported in May 1989

The Australian cricket team won the Team of the Year title in the 1989 'Sport Australia' awards. Captain Allan Border lifted the Most Popular Sporting Personality and Male Athlete of the Year awards

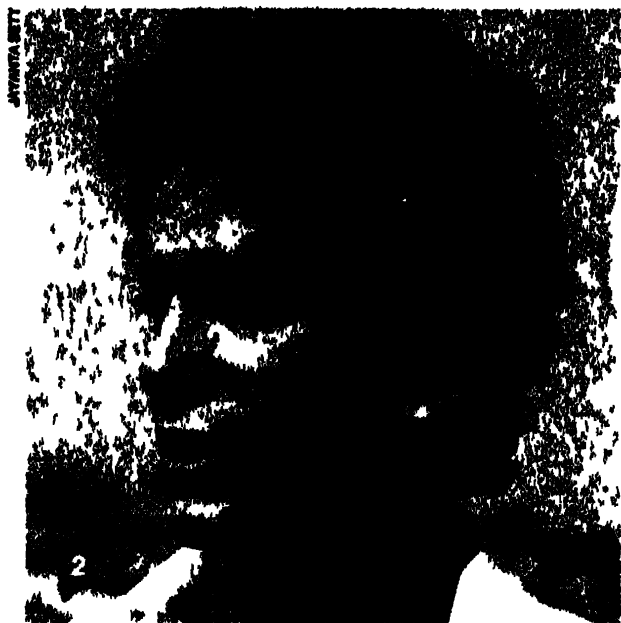
WIDEN CRICKET MONTHLY



David Boon: 'Lager' than life

David Gower: Ditched by all

Allan Border: 'Grumpy' gets popular



Eat Right

LIKE the looks of the guy pictured at left? Well, if you do, how about doing something about it? Don't just sit there and sigh in admiration. Get off your butt and get your life in order: chart out an exercise programme and tick off the goodies that are off your diet for now! And, if you're willing to stick to the grind, you might just find your self turning a few heads by the time the pools open for the summer.

Tempted? Right on! Okay, this week we're going to give you a few tips on eating right. Of course there's never going to be a total solution

since every person's metabolic system differs. But unless you give your body the chance, you'll never know what could have been.

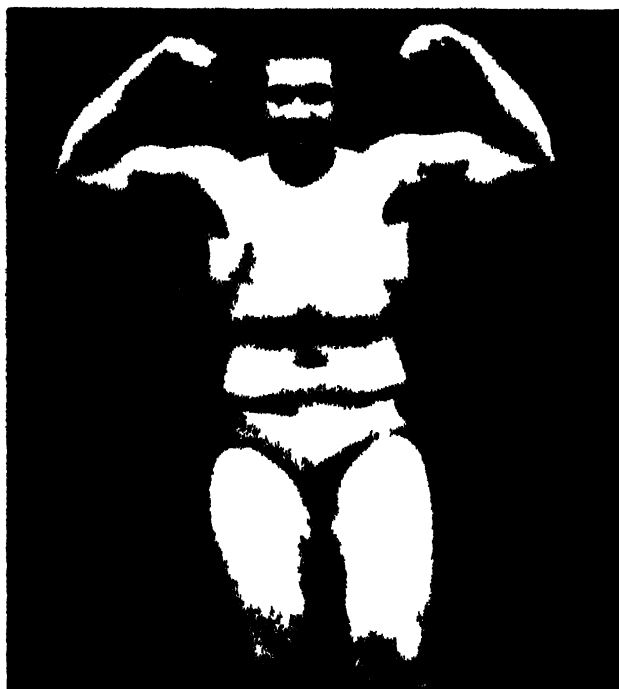
To illustrate our point better we're going to in-

To Look Great

Introduce you to a Mr Lionel Cook. Horribly overweight, he refused to accept a life of obesity and threw himself into a workout programme and diet that had him 54 pounds lighter in just 10 weeks and looking like a new man!

Realising that a good training programme should be designed to keep his breathing and pulse at a higher than normal level but not so high as to be uncomfortable or dangerous — Cook planned his exercises for maximum muscle stimulation in the shortest possible time. Using as little of his reserve energy as possible, he trained for about 45 minutes four times a week. In addition, he also ran up stairs twice a week for about half an hour each time, stepping up two stairs at a time so that he could get double value building leg muscle and burn fat.

But it was in his diet that Cook really struck a winning formula. Designed to starve the fat while feeding the muscle to maintain muscle size, the first thing Cook ate in the morning was a small amount of fruit. About half an hour later, he had the first of his 3-4 small meals consisting of fish or chicken breasts. With each of these meat meals, he had a glass of water with a teaspoon of apple cider vinegar to aid digestion



Lionel Cook: before (above) and after (below)



while two of the meat meals were accompanied by a small totally raw salad. This meant he was getting his share of vitamins and proteins but wasn't stacking on the calories, instead using the 'special oils' from all the meat meals for the energy needed. And the secret of it all is the body is able to dump these special oils if the calories aren't needed.

The whole concept of Cook's diet was to provide the body with all the nutrients needed to build healthy muscle while at the same time, keeping the normal calories low enough to force the body to burn fat. The 'special' calories required for energy could always be dumped if not required.

An added plus was the fat-softening property of the special calories got from the meat meals. Able to liquify and soften hard fat stored on our frames, making it easier for us to burn off, 'special' calories are also much better than most of the energy supplements touted by health stores.

By adhering to his workout routine and his personalised diet, Cook was soon trimming down the flab. The unsightly rolls melted off to be replaced by firm filling muscle. The bloated look was replaced with a firm muscled build that had him mounting body building ramps for all-out show-downs.

And if he can, so can you!

MADRAS

New Racing Track

FOR years, the Madras Motor Sports Club (MMSC) has nourished a dream to have a race-track of its own. A track that measured up to international specifications. Now that dream is on the verge of becoming a reality. Come 11 and 18 February and the popular (read prestigious) all-India Motor Race meet will be held at the new international standard track at Sriperambadur, 34 kilometres from Madras. The disused air-strip at Sholavaram, which for more than 30 years had been MMSC's homeground and the venue of the annual competition is now a showpiece of the past which will only serve as a piece of memorabilia.

Reporters who were taken to Sriperambadur in mid-January were amazed at the speed of the work being done on and around the new track. "If you had come here even a week ago, you would not have recognised this place," S Muthukrishnan, President, MMSC told the visiting reporters.

According to Muthukrishnan, two representatives from FIM, the governing body for the sport, would arrive on 16 February to

inspect the track.

A single lap of the track is 3.7 kilometres compared to 3.2 kilometres at the T-shaped track at Sholavaram. The width of the track is eleven metres and the width of the pit lane is 12 metres. There is a full curve at the halfway mark of the track to accommodate smaller races and this short lap is a little over two kilometres.

Muthukrishnan said that with the inauguration of the new venue, most likely to be christened the "Madras track," it would be possible to conduct races throughout the year at short notice. "There would be club races, sponsored races, even endurance races every week if necessary."

According to him, the new track would lay greater emphasis on safety. Several precautionary measures would be made available so as to avoid accidents.

The new track has 12 curves, pit and paddock area, control tower, a bridge, separate entry to the pit area, special boxes and a grand stand.

Muthukrishnan felt that with the completion of the track early next month the first stage of the work which has taken a little over a year would be completed at a cost of Rs 250 lakhs. The second stage, a periphery around the

The new racing track at Sriperambadur

track would be completed in 1991 at a cost of Rs 60 lakhs. The third stage would involve the construction of a full-fledged stadium at a cost of another Rs 200 lakhs.

The entire area at Irrungatakotai (near Sriperambadur) where the track is actually located is spread around something like 150 acres and would now be the focal point of motor racing in India.

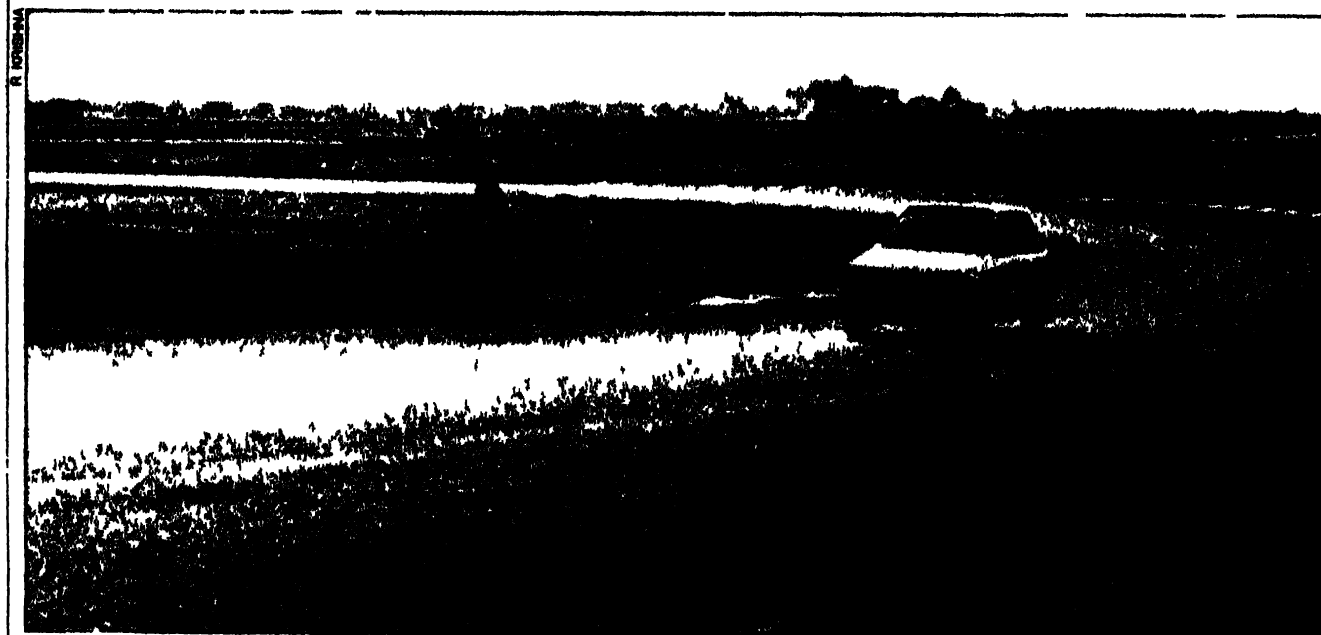
"So far we have been conducting the races on an ad hoc basis. Now we have a permanent home," said a beaming Muthukrishnan. He insisted this would not have been possible but for the active support of the 20 major sponsors who underwrote most of the expenses for the ambitious project.

Partab Ramchand

MEERUT

Mini National TT

THE 12th Mini National TT championships was successfully held at Meerut recently. About 110 players from 14 states participated in the various stages of the tournament. The championship was divided into three categories: Cadet (Under-12), Sub-Junior



(Under-14) and Juniors
(Under-17)

The Results

CADET: Boys

Winner Ganesh Ahuja (Haryana)
Girls Winner Shaibali Rao (Uttar Pradesh)

Sub Junior Boys Singles

Yajuvendra Singh (Punjab)

Boy's Doubles Pankaj Gupta
and Prabhjot Singh (J & K)

Girls Singles Anandita
Chakravarty (W Bengal)

Girls Doubles Puja Rani and
Rekha Sehgal of Haryana

JUNIORS:

Boys Singles Arup Basak

Boys Doubles Deepak Thukral
and Gurinder Shamni (Punjab)

Girls Singles M S Mytheli of
Tamil Nadu

Girls Doubles Leena and Yukti
of Delhi

Madhu Shankar Sharma

RANCHI

Ranchi Open

ANIL KAPOOR of BIT, Mesra won the Nayagarh Trophy when he defeated Dr Sandip Kumar Sharma of Rajendra Medical College and Hospital (RCMH) in the inaugural Ranchi Open Lawn Tennis championships. The final scoreline read 3-6, 6-4, 7-6.

The final, which was played at the clay courts of the Ranchi Club, was a keen contest between two distinct styles. Whereas Anil Kapoor went for his shots, rushed to the net for volleys and did not hesitate in going for bold strokes, his opponent Dr Sharma played the waiting game. He never left the baseline and seemed content to return the ball over the net.

Kapoor's enthusiasm lost him the first set 3-6 but he came back in the second 6-4 to make it one set all. The third set went into the tie-breaker with Kapoor winning the tie-breaker and the trophy.

In the doubles final, K Ramani and P D Singh beat J P Jalan and Ajay Chhabra, 7-5, 6-2.

The Ranchi District Lawn Tennis Association (RDLTA),

established in May, 89, did a commendable job in bringing tennis to this sports-crazy city. Altogether 61 players participated in all, and most of the players came from places like Mur, Hazaribagh and from the different public sector organisations.

The members of the Ranchi Club donated money to finance the championships, while The Freewill sports company provided the Nivea balls free of cost. All in all, it was a well organised championships.

Arun Kumar Thakur

KANPUR

Inter-University Cricket

HOLDERS Agra University retained the U P

Inter-University cricket trophy when they defeated Gorakhpur by 107 runs in the final. Taking first strike, Agra were quickly in



KOTA

Shri Ram Hockey

The victorious Border Security Force team poses for the camera. Defeating Punjab Police 2-1 in the final, this is the third time that BSF won this tournament. Mr. Bansi Dhar, the Managing Director of DCM gave away the prizes.

trouble when they lost three quick wickets for just 42 runs. But Sarvesh Bhatnagar was still batting. Cutting, pulling and driving the ball to all parts of the field, he scored a timely 123 runs off just 122 balls with 15 hits to the fence.

During his knock, Sarvesh Bhatnagar had useful partnerships of 70 with Ajay Kadam, 63 with Rizwan and 83 with Mohit. The final score was 263 for 7 in the stipulated 40 overs.

In reply, Gorakhpur started well. Asif Zahur and Tanq Siddiqui scored 51 runs for the first wicket off 94 overs. But then medium pacer Rizwan struck and that was the start of the slide. The whole team collapsing to 156 all out.

Earlier in the semi-final, Agra had defeated Kanpur University by 55 runs while Gorakhpur defeated Lucknow by six wickets in a one-sided match.

In all 14 Universities participated in this tournament.

organised by the Sports Directorate of U P Sarvesh Bhatnagar won the Best Batsman award while Tariq Zaffar won the Best Bowler award. The All Rounder award went to Ajay Dubey. Anant Sheldhar Misra

NEW DELHI National Shooting Ball

THE 13th National Shooting ball championships was held at the Wazirpur Park recently. And Delhi almost made a clean sweep. Their only blemish, they lost in the men's final to Rajasthan.

In the men's semi-final, Rajasthan beat Haryana 15-3, 7-15, and 15-5 while in the other half, Delhi defeated Madhya Pradesh through some superlative play by Ram Sharma and Surender Talwar.

But in the final, Rajasthan humbled Delhi 15-8, 15-7, 13-15, 15-4. And the credit for Rajasthan's victory should surely go to Dayanand Upadhyay who displayed superb shooting prowess.

The women's competition, introduced this year, got enthusiastic crowd support. In fact, at certain times the excitement was so high that the police had to be kept in readiness in case of any eventuality.

Madhya Pradesh defeated Rajasthan in the semi-finals, 10-15, 15-10, 15-8, while Delhi defeated Gujarat in the other section. In the finals, the Madhya Pradesh girls put up a stiff resistance before bowing to Delhi, 8-15, 11-15.

In the boys section, the most heartening aspect was the superb performance of the rural boys. But despite their fine performance, it was Delhi who emerged the champions when they defeated Punjab, 16-14, 15-7.

In all, about 27 teams participated in the championships which was possible only thanks to a lot of donations from businessmen and clubs. The



The women's champion: Delhi State

championships, however, could have been better organised. As for the complaints that the media coverage was meagre, isn't it obvious considering that there were no facilities for the Press?

The Additional Commissioner of Delhi Police, Mr R K Niyogi gave away the prizes. M.P. Nathanael

Karnataka State Cricket Association under the auspices of Jugal Sports Club. The tournament which commenced on December 17 had in all 27 preliminary matches and 16 knock out matches.

Michael R. Patrao

Captain Rajeshwar of the Young Cricketers receiving the trophy from Y.S. Hegde, Chairman, Corporation Bank.

MANGALORE State-level Cricket

YOUNG Cricketers of Bangalore defeated Vijaya Bank by 73 runs in the finals of the state-level cricket tournament lifting the Jugal trophy and a cash prize of Rs 20,000 at Mangalore on January 10. The runners up were awarded Rs 15,000 and a trophy.

In the 50-overs per innings, Young Cricketers batting first were all out for 257 runs in 49.2 overs with Nelson D'Souza, the man of the final match, scoring 110 runs. Vijaya Bank scored 184 runs in 48.2 overs. Ranji all-rounder, K. Jeshwant of Vijaya Bank was declared "Man of the Series".

As many as 40 teams with several Ranji players from the state participated in the tournament recognised by



CALCUTTA

Junior National Badminton

THE Junior National Badminton championships was held in the city recently. But the news was not good at all. The standard was mediocre and uninspiring, despite the unexpected upsets that occurred during the course of the championships.

Most of the seeded players in the boy's section did not play to expectations. Top seeded Sushant Saxena from Uttar Pradesh surprisingly lost in the semi-finals and third seeded R.K. Mailkhuri also lost. Both fell victim to Kerala's Jessel P. Ismail.

An unknown, before the tournament began, Ismail defeated Mailkhuri in the quarter finals and Sushant Saxena in the semi-finals, 12-15, 15-13, 15-10. In the finals, he met Harshal Shimpi. It was expected that the Kerala lad would give a good fight before losing but instead he turned the tables on Shimpi. Ismail won 15-10, 7-15 and 15-7 to



Giant-killer J. Ismail poses for the camera

lift the title.

In the women's section, the standard was low. Feroza Batliwala of Pune won the championships when she defeated Nancy Keith and she added another feather in her cap when she teamed up with P. Narlekar to win the girls doubles. They defeated the duo of M.C. Jacob and M.T. Abraham, 10-15, 18-13 and 15-10.

The boys doubles was won by Vijay Deep and Mani Sehgal. Nancy Keith and Tapan Nagori won the mixed doubles while Anil Pradhan won the veteran singles.

Warren Open Golf

CITY pro Brandon D'Souza improved with every outing and had a title to show for it when he annexed the Warren Open golf championship beating another city pro Basad Ali by a whisker at the Tollygunge Club course.

It was a fine performance by

D'Souza. In great nick on the final day, he had to pull out all the stops in order to surpass Basad Ali who had a slight edge over him on the penultimate day. Fortunately for D'Souza, nothing went wrong for him as his drives and putts seldom missed their mark.

Basad Ali, who enjoyed a two-stroke lead by the 15th hole, floundered on the last three holes and squandered the chance of picking up the winner's cheque. D'Souza, on the other hand, held a tight leash on the proceedings and deservedly won the title totalling 282 points, a stroke ahead of Basad Ali.

Delhi's Rohtas Singh, who won two titles within a week recently, very much against the same set of players, finished joint second with Basad Ali. Bombay's Phil Pilling was fourth and Delhi's Ali Sher shared the fifth spot with Feroze.

Subhanker Sen once again proved that he was the best amateur around. He returned with 298 points, nine adrift of second placed Bomby Randhawa. Rajat Khurana came third.

Soumitra Bose

MADRAS

Karnataka tops South Zone Ranji table

THE failure of Tamil Nadu to qualify for the knock-out stage of the Ranji Trophy competition was the talking point of the South Zone Ranji Trophy league. Winners in 1987-88.

Semi-finalists last year, Tamil Nadu finished third in the league in 1989-90 behind Karnataka and Hyderabad.

Karnataka's was a creditable performance on the other hand. Few would have given them much chance of topping the Zone after a traumatic last season. Karnataka had lost many of their stalwarts in the last couple of years. Normally, the rebuilding process would have taken some time. But they surprised by not having a single





bad match in 1989-90. They held their own against Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad getting 65 points against the three lesser placed teams—Kerala, Andhra and Goa—to finish on top with 87 points.

Karnataka was well served by its opening pair of Sashikanth and Carlton Saldanha. Both were among the runs and against Kerala shared a stand of 203 runs. The all-round efforts of Anil Kumble and Roger Binny—especially the leadership qualities of the latter—were also contributing factors to Karnataka's fine showing. But Karnataka's discovery of the season was its young medium pacer J. Srinath who made an impressive debut, the pick of his efforts being a hat-trick in his first Ranji Trophy game against Hyderabad. He became the sixth bowler to achieve the feat and the first from the South Zone. It came as no surprise when he was included in the

South Zone side for the Duleep Trophy Championship.

Hyderabad's strength was easily its batting. It got 472 for seven against Goa, 556 for five

against Andhra and 486 against Kerala. Even against stronger teams like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka they got 331 and 261. Against Karnataka, Vivek Jaisimha and Venkatpathi Raju added 124 runs for the tenth wicket to help Hyderabad reach a respectable total.

C. V. Sridhar was Hyderabad's leading batsman. He scored over 500 runs with two hundreds and three scores over the half-century mark. Vivek Jaisimha also got two centuries while Jaikumar, Abdul Azeem and Ehtasham Ali Khan got a hundred each. Against Andhra, Azeem (145) and Jaikumar (140) put on 266 runs for the first wicket.

Hyderabad's bowling too was in capable hands. Medium-pacer Rajesh Yadav picked up his 100th wicket during the season while spinners Shivlal Yadav,

Roger Binny: fine captaincy

Venkatpathi Raju, Arshad Ayub and Kanwaljit Singh made vital contributions. Hyderabad will certainly miss Raju in the knock-out round.

Hyderabad had only one outright victory—an innings win over Goa but picked up enough points in its remaining games to stay in the hunt till the final of the league between Tamil Nadu and Goa. Tamil Nadu had to get full 24 points to pip Hyderabad. But Tamil Nadu, despite scoring an innings victory, could get only 21 points, paving the way for Hyderabad's entry into the knock-out stage.

Tamil Nadu did not have a satisfactory season. They scored two innings victories over Andhra and Goa. The game against Kerala was affected by inclement weather. In just over a day's play, Tamil Nadu could salvage only 13 points but with Hyderabad getting only 15 points against Kerala, Tamil Nadu was back in the running. In the crucial game between Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad at Tiruchi, however, the latter got 14 points to Tamil Nadu's ten. This in the final analysis proved vital.

Neither Tamil Nadu's batting nor bowling rose to great heights. V. B. Chandrasekhar got 73 and 53 in two matches. When he went off to New Zealand, Srikanth returned and scored 96, 86, 56 and 111 in the two matches that followed. Arjan Kripal Singh got a splendid century against Karnataka and Bharat Arun, who led Tamil Nadu for most of the season, got an aggressive 141 against Andhra.

Medium-pacers Vasu and Arun did have their moments (the former too pulled his weight with the bat) but the best was easily Sunil Subramaniam. The tall left-arm spinner who made a startling debut last season, picking up 34 wickets, again rose to the occasion with some fine performances, the best being ten for 93 in the match against Goa. In the process he picked up his 50th Ranji wicket in only his eleventh match.

Kerala enjoyed its best season for some time, finishing fourth

with 50 points. In the process, Kerala scored its first victory in three years in the championship when it beat Goa by seven wickets. It also did well by battling it out against Hyderabad. Their best player was all-rounder P T Subramaniam.

Andhra, who are normally capable of causing an upset or two—they won the South Zone league title four years ago—had a disappointing season. They fared badly against the top three teams and were at the receiving end even against Kerala until veterans Kamaraju (106) and Bhaskara Ramamurthy (104 not out) came to their rescue with a stout-hearted second innings fightback, adding 169 runs for the sixth wicket. Their only real moment of joy was against Goa when they got the first innings lead and Chamundeswari (154) and M S Kumar (128) shared a record 219-run stand for the sixth wicket.

For Goa it was a season to forget. They lost badly to 'the big three' (two by an innings, one by ten wickets) were beaten by Kerala and conceded first innings points to Andhra. And yet it was a Goan who performed the most memorable feat of the season. Against Hyderabad, Satish Shinde scored 144 out of 175. Scoring 82 per cent of the side's total, Shinde found a place in the record books. Shinde hit a second hundred a month later against Kerala.

Final points position:
Karnataka 87, Hyderabad 81, Tamil Nadu 79, Kerala 50, Andhra 37, Goa 24.

National Junior Girls Chess

A bright 15-year-old from Bengal was the cynosure of all eyes during the Eagle Flask National Junior Girls Chess Championship conducted in the city in the middle of January. In a tough and experienced field of 45 competitors from 12 States, few would have given Saheli Dhar any chance of winning



the title when the 10-day competition commenced. But after a slow and steady start, Saheli went into the lead in the sixth round of the nine round championship and then went from strength to strength. At the finish, she was a full point ahead of her nearest rival Mrunalini Kunte of Maharashtra to lift the Lakshmi Mills trophy with a total of eight points.

Top seed and former national champion N Saritha of Tamil Nadu and second seed Mrunalini Kunte were favourites when the tournament got underway. The two started well but when they both lost their second round matches, the field was suddenly thrown wide open.

By the fourth round, Madhevi Potdar of Maharashtra was the sole leader. Madhavi kept the lead till the fifth round but Saheli, playing brilliant chess, had crept up to second spot. And with a superlative victory over Madhavi in the sixth round—she wrapped up the game in just 14 moves—Saheli surged into the lead with a tally of 5 1/2 points at this stage.

Saheli Dhar: the champion

Saheli did not falter thereafter. Enjoying a lead of half a point, she stretched it to one point with a victory over L Nalini of Tamil Nadu in the eighth and penultimate round. Mrunalini, in the meantime, had gone up to second place and all that Saheli with a tally of 7 1/2 points had to do was to avoid defeat in her ninth and final round game against Mrunalini who had 6 1/2 points.

That game, in fact, had an anti-climatic touch, for Saheli and Mrunalini agreed to a draw after a few moves to clinch the title for Saheli.

Madhavi Potdar, after her confident start, faltered. In fact, she lost to Mrunalini in the eighth round to slide further down the points table. Third place went to Sai Meera of Orissa who finished with 6 1/2 points. Sai, however, had the distinction of scoring the fastest victory of the tournament when she defeated Yogini Sarpotdar of Maharashtra in just eleven moves, the game lasting only ten minutes.

Parthab Ramchand

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 Kennington Oval has a permanent place in the history of football. Why?
- 2 Which long-distance runner—an Olympic favourite in the Fifties—was nicknamed 'Mr Puff-Puff' by foreign journalists?
- 3 Who was the first man to surpass seven feet in the high jump?
- 4 Don Bradman's highest score was 452 not out. Who were the opponents?
- 5 Which famous mountaineer said that he wanted to climb Everest simply 'because it is there'?
- 6 Cycle tracks are called *velodromes* all over the world, why?
- 7 The Vardon Trophy is awarded to the golfer with the lowest average in PGA events each year (minimum of 80 rounds). Who became the first man to win the Vardon Trophy three years consecutively?
- 8 An American wrestler won a gold medal in the 1976 Olympics. Name him.
- 9 What is the 'Vasa Lopp'?

ANSWERS

- 1 The first F.A. Cup final was played there (on March 16, 1872).
- 2 Gordon Pirie (Great Britain).
- 3 Charlie Dumas.
- 4 Queensland.
- 5 George Leigh Mallory.
- 6 In Europe the racing bicycle is known as a *vélo*. Hence the name velodrome.
- 7 Lee Trevino.
- 8 John Peterson.
- 9 The greatest Nordic ski race of the world.

CHESS

The Slav Exchange Variation has a perhaps undeserved reputation as a drawing line. The completely symmetrical pawn structure doesn't really lend itself to winning attempts.

However, Botvinnik in his time and Portisch among contemporary players have often made the full point out of white's slight initiative. Here for a change is a thunderous black win from

this system

White Seirawan Vs Black Belyavsky, Slav Defence Brussels '88

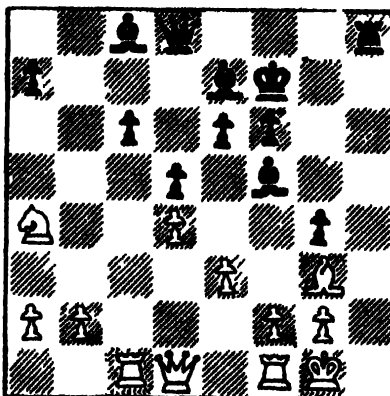
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 cd5 cd5 5 Bf4 Nc6 6 e3 Bf5 7 Nf3 e6 8 Bb5 Nd7 Black's last is necessary to keep control of e5. 90-0 Be7 10 Bxc6 bc6 11 Rc1 Rc8 12 Na4? Better would be 12 Ne5 though black has comfortable equality in that case too.

12 -g5! 13 Bg3 h5 14 h3 g4 15 hg4 If 15 Ne5 Nxe5 16 Bxe5 f6 17 Bf4 gh3 18 g3 Bd8 19 Nc5 e5 20 Nb7? Qe7 21 Nsd6 Qxd6 with a strong attack. 15- hg4 16 Ne5 The passive 16 Nh2 is met by 16 - Nf6 17 Nc5 Bxc5 18 dc5 Ne4 19 Nxxg4 Qg5 and black should win.

16- Nxe5 17 Bxe5 f6 18 bg3 Kf7 (see Diagram) 19 Re1 White can try to break the kingside bind with 19 f3 gf3 20 Qxf3 Qg8 21 Kf2 Be4 22 Qd1 Qg8 when black can transfer the Rc g8 and the pressure becomes unbearable. Also 19 Qb3 goes down to

19-Qg8! planning 20-Qh7. 19 - Rh5! 20 Qd2 Be4! 21 Kf1? White is lost in any case as 21 Qd1 (what else?) is met by 21 - Qg8 and the familiar idea of Qg8 and Rc h8 21 Bf3! (0-1). The often despised c8 bishop turns into a mating piece and white's knight on a4 never gets back into the game.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

Safety plays come in different forms and guises and it needs very sharp eyes to recognise them

when they appear at the table. Today's hand is from a national championship many years ago -

Dealer West		N S vul	
		NORTH (dummy)	
		♠ 9 8 7 4	
		♥ A 7 6 4	
		♦ A 9 7 2	
		♣ 7	
WEST		EAST	
♠ 5		♠ J 10 2	
♥ K 8 7		♥ Q 10 5	
♦ U J 10 8 6 5		♦ 3	
♣ A K 10		♣ J 9 8 6 4 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A K Q 8 3	
		♥ J 9 2	
		♦ K 4	
		♣ Q 5 3	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Both tables played in a spade game after an auction similar to the above. At the first table, West led the queen of diamonds to declarer's king and on winning the continuation of the club queen played back the jack of diamonds. East ruffed the ace put up by dummy and played back a trump and in the fulness of time declarer had to open up the heart suit himself and the defence came to two heart tricks to set the contract. Both declarer and dummy bemoaned their luck as without the 6-1 diamond break the game would have scored.

At the other table, however, declarer proved that game was makeable despite the 6-1 break. Winning the diamond lead, he also returned the club queen to West's king but when West continued the diamond jack, South refused to put up the ace from dummy! Instead, he followed low from the table, allowing West an unnecessary trick in diamonds but saving the diamond ace for later use. There was nothing the defence could do now. Had the defence opened up the hearts themselves, declarer would have lost only one trick in the suit, so West did best to continue with a third diamond. South ruffed in hand, ruffed a club, came to hand in trumps, ruffed his last club, drew trumps, and finally crossed over to the heart ace and discarded a heart loser on the well-preserved ace of diamonds!

Santanu Ghose

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week we'll move onto three-step combinations from *kumite-dachi*: two punches and a kick. Starting from the fighting stance—*kumite dachi*—flick the left hand out to deliver a straight punch to your opponent's collar-bone

region. Withdrawing the left hand to guard the face, throw a straight punch with the right hand. Using the forward momentum created by the punch, perform a *jodan mai giri*

Throw a straight punch with the left hand



Follow it up with another straight punch, with the right this time



Complete the sequence with a *jodan-mai-giri* with the right leg

kick at your opponent's chin.

The idea behind this combination is to stop an onrushing opponent. While the first punch stops him, the second one keeps some distance between him and you, allowing you to launch into the kick to drop him.

By Shivali Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate

LOOT TH (FOOT)

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

A DECADE of football has ended with the game under a dark cloud. A new one has begun, hopefully with a silver lining in the shape of the World Cup.

How much has changed in the past 10 years? And what will a glance into our crystal (foot) balls tell of what lies ahead in the next 10?

The gloom in which football ends the Eighties was generated by the disasters of Bradford, Heysel and Hillsborough, all of which were utterly avoidable.

The Bradford fire was caused by the ignition of rubbish which had been allowed to gather there for 20 years.





**In the Nineties
will television
talk...with
tournaments
coming to
birth simply
because the
small screen
wants it?**

ACTION PLUS

Heysel where I was present was down to a ghastly combination of factors. Quite apart from the violence of the Liverpool supporters there were so many appalling inefficiencies. English and Italian fans were inexcusably allowed to mix on the terraces, the police were inept, UEFA so abysmally wrong to choose the broken down stadium at all.

Hillsborough could also have been prevented. The police chief who had been effectively in charge of the Liverpool Nottingham Forest semi final at Sheffield the previous year had been replaced. No serious attempt was made to filter fans off the fatal central terraces on to those at the side where there was plenty of room. Horror ensued.

AND the football? A number of marvellous individual stars emerged giving the lie to the theory that the mechanised, highly athletic football of today makes them an impossibility.

Has there ever been a more marvellous footballer than the stocky little Buenos Aires urchin Diego Maradona, with his fantastic skill, his superb left foot, his acceleration, his capacity to see and make an opening in a flash, score from glorious free kicks, dribble through a whole dazed defence?

Maradona will be playing in Italy in his fourth World Cup though in fact it will be only his third. His original mentor, El Flaco Menotti, team manager of the Argentine side which won the 1978 World Cup in Buenos Aires, decided not to put the then 17 year old Diego in the squad.

In the 1982 Finals Maradona looked a somewhat petulant figure, provoked into ludicrous fouls, though provoked was the relevant word. But in Mexico in 1986 how he took wing. Argentina's victory would have been impossible without him.

Holland provided the other two great players of the decade and they like Maradona are still with us. Ruud Gullit is second surely only to the Argentinian though we must hold our breath and pray

he isn't lost forever to the game

Not for months will we know whether he will recover from the third serious operation on his right knee in time for Italy

At his best, what a compound of power and skill, what a paragon of versatility, the dreadlocked Gullit has been. What delicacy of touch for so large a man, what speed of thought and foot, what a fierce right foot, and what strength in the air.

Many of these qualities are possessed by Marco Van Basten, the Dutch international centre forward who has become, for the second time in succession, European Footballer of the Year. The stupendous volley with which he scored for Holland in the Final of the European Championship against Russia in June 1988 was surely one of the great goals of the decade.

When it came to goal scoring, however, Paolo Rossi of Italy comes second to none. His sudden burst of old form in the 1982 World Cup, after getting the rust out of his joints in Galicia in the opening matches, allowed Italy to sail through to a triumph graced by superb attacking football. Rossi had been out of football for two years, suspended after his involvement in a batting scandal.

BUT what of the football itself? Did it go back or forward? And what can we expect in the Nineties? For my own part, I felt the Eighties were a little bit of an anticlimax. Whatever happened to Total Football. I kept asking myself. In the early Seventies, as a French journalist remarked to me after Ajax had won the European Cup in Rotterdam, this was the new reality.

Total Football meant, ideally, total versatility, even if it never quite came off. It was inseparably bound to Franz Beckenbauer and the experiment he carried through first with Bayern, then with the West German international team.

Watching the attacking Inter left back Giacinto Facchetti, he asked himself why shouldn't one attack from a central position? So was born the idea of the attacking



WHAT a compound of power and skill. What a paragon of versatility, the dreadlocked Gullit has been...and strength in the air

Gullit in action for AC Milan

sweeper, no longer just a destroyer, and of so called Total Football itself

Some of it remains. Holland practised it superbly as we know, inspired by that versatile centre-forward Johan Cruyff. The Holland of the Eighties would use Ronald Koeman as an attacking sweeper. But they hadn't the all-round versatility of Cruyff's team.

For Britain, the decade began gloriously at least at club level, with Liverpool the dominant team.

But by a most bitter irony it was Liverpool's supporters at Heysel who put them and all the other English clubs out of European football for years leaving the English game prey to the mindless long ball tactics, the big boot down the middle which Liverpool themselves had left behind in the early Seventies.

IN the Nineties will television talk? Will such powerful figures as Silvio Berlusconi, president of Milan and a TV tycoon have their way and make football the handmaid of television with tournaments coming to birth simply because the small screen wants them?

I hope not. That would be a case of the tail wagging the dog, never mind how powerful the tail.

As far as the game's rulers are concerned it seems that the era of Joao Havelange at FIFA is coming to an end, storm tossed, controversial and unchallenged as it has been.

I still think it was a bitter mistake to bloat the World Cup into a clumsy 24 team tournament as Havelange has done but already there is a promising straw in the wind.

FIFA's secretary Sepp Blatter who seems to be the ascending power has completely reversed Havelange's dismal opposition to the fine English initiative of some seasons ago the classification of the professional foul, with consequent and automatic sending off for any defender who committed it on a forward who seemed likely to score.

This could positively and benignly transform the game in the 1990s. *Moharaja Features*

BRUNO THE GENIE

ALADDIN is going to be kayoed by this little piece of info: Frank Bruno, the big gargoyle is going to play the genie in Aladdin's lamp. It's true! The man is going to star in a pantomime. He's wrapped up his gloves and put on the sequinned gown for six weeks at a theatre in London. But why is he, a boxer, doing a panto? "That's me, isn't it?" Replied he, frankly.

"Always ducking and diving. Trying to find out what I can do and what I can't. I've done a lot of things even it meant making a fool of myself. I like



Bruno: Jack of all trades

testing myself out and having a few laughs. Well, it's high time you did have a few laughs. Frank. And oh! Congratulations on getting married.

WELCOME BACK YANNICK!

THE world need not necessarily agree with Yannick Noah when he takes all the credit for his comeback. What an Australian Open he had!

But there's another man, somewhere in the background who helped. An African witch doctor, who lashed Noah's ailing knee with the tail of a panther, is getting Noah: after effects of a 'tail lashing'.

the praise for the revival of the tennis star.

Noah, who has had chronic knee problems admits to having gone to the voodoo man's clinic last February and got cured.

"I was out hiking in the jungle with guides when I heard of this guy who lived a couple of miles up the river," Noah said. "I decided to have a go and arrived at his place ready for anything he was going to dish out."

"He got out this panther's tail and started belting the hell out of me, I didn't have any problem since. Hey Yannick! Did you get his calling card?"

MAC's BIG PLAN

JOHN McENROE it appears has a plan. It is simple. It seems, he wants to help the people of East Germany, and at the same time help tennis players improve their own image (talking about yourself Mac?) He wants the \$6 million Grand Slam Cup held in East Germany, with most of the record prize-money going to assist the East Germans.

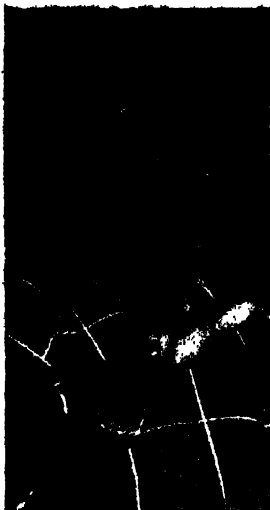
"I don't see the necessity of all that money," he had said before competing in the Australian (had any image problems there). McEnroe suggested that holding the event in East Berlin would give a special significance to the tournament. "We can use the money to help the situation there. It figures, I guess, because Mac was born there."

McEnroe goes back to his roots



TOYAMA, H. NOBLE

ANOTHER GIMMICK



Sugar Ray: outconned this time

SUGAR RAY LEONARD has now found out that it can be as difficult to lose a title outside the ring as to retain it inside.

The 33-year old 'master gimmick' advised the World Boxing Council that he was relinquishing the super-middleweight title he won from

Donny Lalonde in 1988 and retained against Roberto 'no mas' Duran on December 1989. Funny thing, however, he did not say that he was retiring.

Jose Sulaiman, WBC President announced, however, that he was rejecting Leonard's request because, "He has six months following his last fight before he has any obligation to expose his title again."

Leonard's attorney, Mike Trainer retorted, "Joes Sulaiman can continue to recognise Leonard as champion. That's his right." Leonard, who has held five boxing world titles has said he will never again announce his retirement, something he has done three times already.

SHOUTED OUT!

THE tour to South Africa has already started for Mike Gatting and his cronies, and they may be regretting it already. Before the tour began, Mike and his 'merry men' got a taste of what is to come.

A certain Mr. Mike Brannen, an anti-apartheid demonstrator told Gatting a thing or two. The conversation went thus: "How much are they paying you Mr Gatting? What's the blood money like in South Africa? I suppose you'll get a nice new car out of this, a second home and a yacht and lots of perks on the backs of blacks in South Africa."

All throughout the pep talk Gatting had kept a quiet composure. Adding later on: "I hope the police in South Africa



Gatting faces the flak

will not be too violent on the crowds. I also hope there won't be any squashing of heads and all that. The South African Cricket Union have promised to look after us. But until we are out there, we don't know what to expect." Chickening out already, are you Mike?

MISSING DILIP...

WHERE art thou justice? At least, where art thou as far as Dilip Vengsarkar is concerned? The Bombay man is hurt....hurt like hell. He says it like this, "Hurt...? I am....well....very disappointed."

Well, we can't blame you Dilip. In an interview to the *Indian Post* he really vomits out his feelings from cricket to umpires to cricket gear, et al. According to him a panel of six umpires should be formed. Due to the zonal system, he says, "We have the system of distributing *prasad* to keep all and sundry happy. This is not the case in England."

As far as cricket gear goes, he claims it has improved a lot. "But I don't appreciate the balls used in India as they are hard." Malcolm Marshall, he claims, has said that, "With the kind of Indian brands available would end up killing one batsman per over! But then Raj Singh doesn't bat nowadays. Does he, Dilip?

Vengsarkar, the lonely man



freewheeling

TAXI drivers, who have constantly featured in this magazine, are a unique breed here Down Under. To begin with, on the face of it, it seems rather bizarre to ask them "Are you Australian"? But then considering the answers I have received—"No, I'm Greek, Italian, Malaysian, Portuguese—perhaps it is not so strange. For this land is the greatest embracer of lost, lonely immigrants. But the one requirement, that Australia demands from this lucky few, in return for stamping their passports is a passion for sport. And the way the cabbies twang away, waxing eloquently and knowledgeably on ev-

everything from Becker's service toss to Ric Charlesworth's retirement plans, it is sensible to keep your press identity in your pocket.

Like this fellow who questioned me on glasnost: "Hey mate, I heard glasnost's being felt even at the Open. Must be because of the talks Bush had with Gorbachev, Hah, hah, hah" "Hah, hah, hah," I went too, smiling foolishly, of course having no idea what he was talking about.

Fortunately he knew the answer himself: "You know that Yank fellow, what's his name, yeah Jim Pugh, he's

playing mixed doubles with Zvereva, and she's a Ruskie"

Hoo boy, live and learn.

The next cabbie was more with it...an engineering student, earning his college fees. He asked about "fashion."

I said, "there's none, the Aussies don't wear anything."

He said, "No, I'm talking about the players."

"Oh."

Ah, fashion an interesting subject, for a new style has emerged, while an old one finally consigned to the attic.

Lendl, with his Beau Geste, cool the neck, flap cap, was leader of the

'hat pack'. Christo van Rensburg followed suit...for as one journalist wag went: "where the world no. 1 goes, the rest follows". Explanation: if it helps his game, it'll help help ours too, and we need it. Becker didn't use one till his last match; looked like a golfer caddie. Wilander, the cultured Swede, decided on a Great Gatsby look. Pernfors wore his backwards, even during night matches, which no-one understood. McEnroe settled for a bandanna, which combined with white zinc cream on the lips made him look like a Woodstock veteran. Mecir, not surprisingly wore nothing....probably didn't know it was hot.

But the hat was necessary, so much so, that the tournament committee altered the rules on roof closure. Earlier it depended on rain...this year, they ruled, that if the heat exceeded 30 degrees, and both players agreed, the roof could be closed.

Conversely, the age of tennis dresses has ended. Ted Tinling the man who designed Gussie Moran's panties, and one piece dresses for everyone from Billie Jean to Martina to Chris Evert is now out of work. The last such Tinling creation was a couple of years back for Zina Garrison. But the clothing companies and women prefer skirts and tops, for comfort and primarily because this is sportswear than can be worn casually anytime, as opposed to tennis wear. It has in a subtle way, taken that extra bit of femininity out of women's tennis.

Robt Brjnneth, Melbourne



Kathy Rinaldi: in baseball attire

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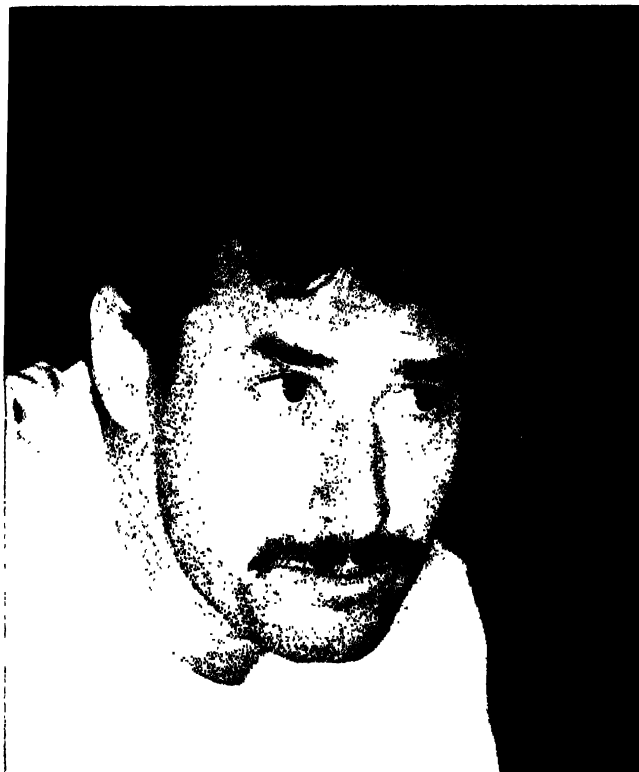


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CLUB AND THE KIWIS FLATTEN A YOUNG
INDIAN SIDE IN THE CHRISTCHURCH TEST

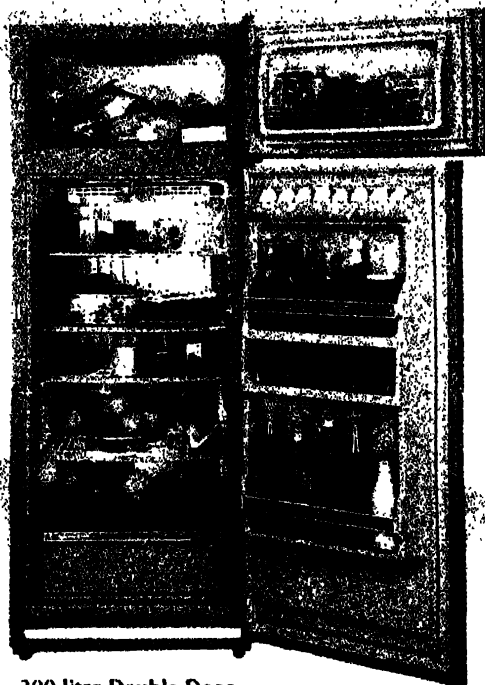
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GAMES OF 1982

THE INDIAN DOPE TRICK!



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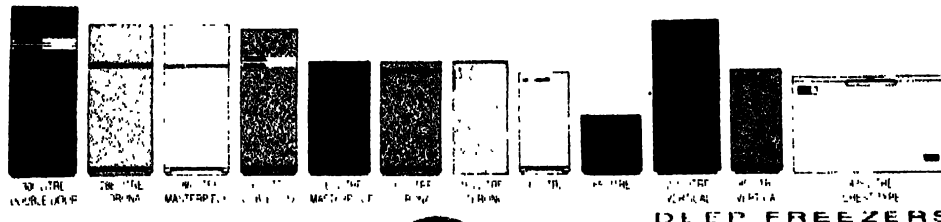
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6 He huffed And he puffed And he won three medals But then he got caught Indian weightlifter Subrata Pal's testing positive to the drugs test throws the entire Indian performance at the Auckland Commonwealth Games under a shroud of suspicion Read about the great Indian Dope Trick! Plus an in-depth analysis of drugs in Indian sport

22 The team of the Nineties lasts exactly 35 days as New Zealand steamroller India to a 10-wicket defeat in the first Test at Christchurch Richard Hadlee gets the magic 400th wicket Sidhu gets a bruised knuckle And Vengsarkar gets a ticket to play! Ashok Kamath files the Indian cricket team's obituary

44 Subdued and heavily into Islam, Muhammad Ali speaks to Rahul Chandawarkar in an exclusive interview at Madras 'Let him remain champion for some more years and then we'll know how much of an all-time great he is' is the Greatest's opinion on the current king of the heavy weight ring Mike Tyson

76 All 100m butterfly-strokers beware! A shark has entered the pool A 39-year old shark by the name of Mark Spitz And he's hell bent on chewing up his best ever timing (set at the 1972 Munich Olympics) in the 100 'fly and anyone who gets in the way Mark Spitz writes about his decision to try out for the US Olympic swim team



While the Indians and the Welsh reeled under drug charges, British swimmer Adrian Moorhouse went about his pet event—the 100m breaststroke—in typical style. The result: the only world record performance of the 1990 Commonwealth Games!

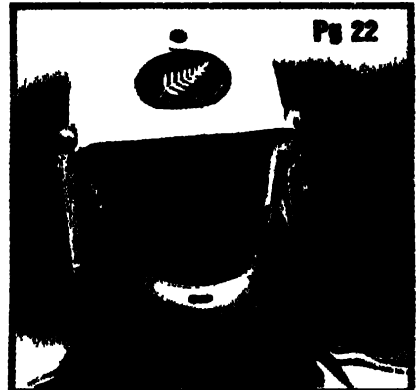
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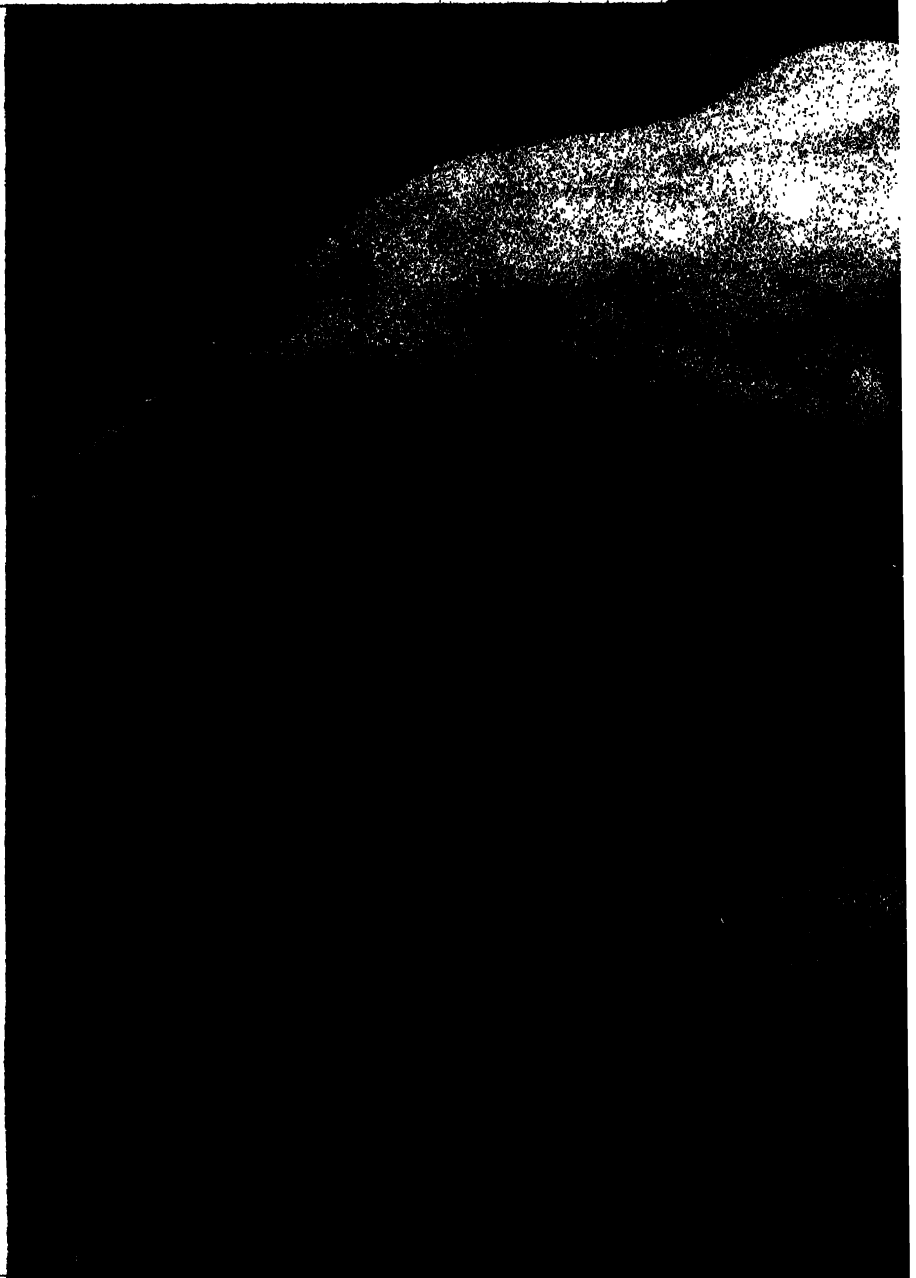
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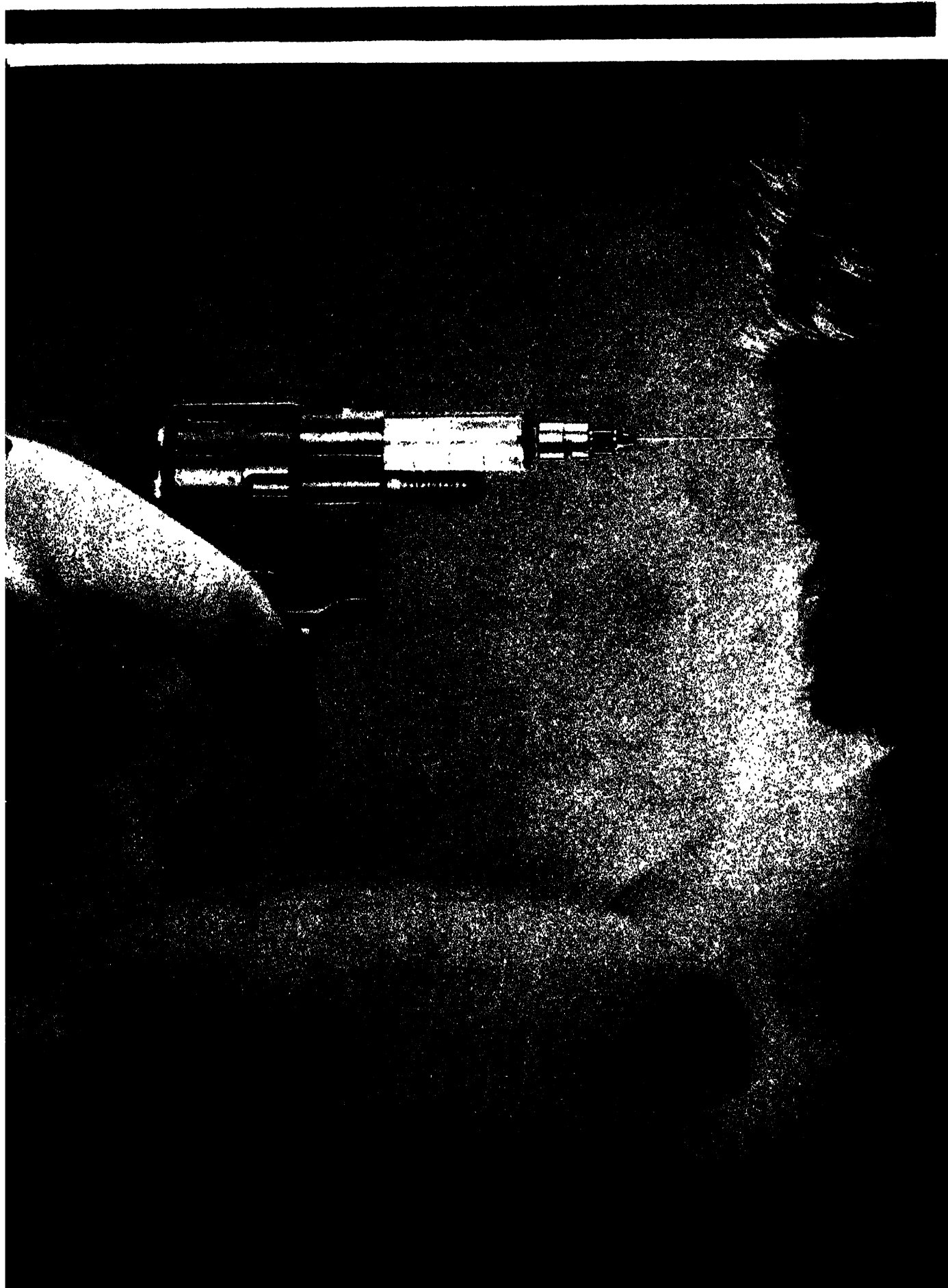
ACTION PLUS

THE INDIAN DOPE TRICK

**Indian weightlifter,
Subrata Pal tests positive
for banned drugs in
Auckland. The
Commonwealth Games is
plunged into controversy;
the otherwise creditable
Indian performance is
looked at with suspicion;
And the drugs-in-sport
debate hots up once again**

**A thorough investigation
into what happened and a
look at drugs in Indian
sport**





7

he dope busters have struck again. And, now we also have our *desi*

version of the Ben Johnson saga! Who says only 'Bollywood' can make carbon copies of what happens in the West. Weightlifter Subrata Pal' story is similar. Like the Ben Johnson script, it has lies, cover ups, ambiguities, contradictions suspense. Everything. But the truth

And that will take some time to emerge, for in any dope controversy there are stages. First there is the 'I-am-innocent stage'. Then the 'Somebody-gave-me-something-I-didn't know' stage. And when the facts are out then the 'I-promise-not-to-do-it-again' stuff

THE 'I-AM-INNOCENT' STAGE

One remembers the day when our photographer in Delhi sent us

shots of the Indian contingent preparing for the Commonwealth Games. The majority of them were of our weightlifters, since we thought they were to be 'our best bets' at Auckland. There was an off-the-cuff comment made at one of the photographs: "If this chap isn't on steroids then my grandmother is Santa Claus.

Lack of space did not allow the use of the photograph. But the day we read about the positive test of Subrata Pal, we pulled out the photographs we had received. And sure enough, the photograph in question was of no one else but

FOR almost every sport, there are some pills and potions that promise black-magic results. To fire their systems up, many competitors have turned to stimulants, using amphetamines or even caffeine enemas and suppositories, because rectal administration puts the chemical into the bloodstream without causing an upset stomach. Testing for "uppers" by sports federations is highly reliable, but use of this class of drugs is not confined to competitions like the Olympics. Some of the most famous cases of stimulant usage have occurred in professional

LITTLE GOOD, MUCH BAD

When a sportsman uses drugs, he's

baseball and football, which have lax testing for the substances.

Diuretics are yet another group of forbidden drugs. The Bulgarian weight-lifting team was withdrawn from Seoul after two of its medalists tested positive for the diuretic furosemide. By flushing water from the body,

AN APOTHECARY CHEST OF SUBSTANCES BANNED AT THE GAMES

	Anabolic steroids	Corticosteroids*	Diuretics	Stimulants	Narcotic analgesics	Beta blockers	Blood doping
Effects	Increase muscle mass and strength	Increase aggression, reduce fatigue and pain	Reduce weight quickly and mask other drugs?	Increase alertness and delay fatigue	Kill pain and induce feeling of calm	Slow the heartbeat and steady body movements	Enhance endurance (by reinjecting one's own red blood cells)
Sport in which use is common	Weight lifting, football, field events	Boxing, wrestling, most sports	Weight lifting, boxing, wrestling, not endurance sports	Most sports, but counterproductive for shooting	Shooting and others; not useful for endurance sports	Archery and shooting	Cross-country skiing, biking, long-distance running
Testing	Urinalysis	Urinalysis	Urinalysis	Urinalysis	Urinalysis	Urinalysis	No test
Other complications	Women - menstrual irregularity, breast atrophy, thin hair, deeper voice, balding	Reduced healing of injury, infections	Dehydration, stomach or leg cramps, loss of sodium and potassium	Restlessness, anxiety, insomnia, blood pressure increase	Danger of worsening injury, overdose may cause death or coma	Causes asthma symptoms; decreases vital alertness; can lead to hypotension	None documented, though allergic reactions have been reported
Other notes	Should not be used by women	Should not be used by women	Produce irregular heartbeats that can lead to cardiac arrest; kidney damage	Should not be used by women	Should not be used by women	Should not be used by women	Should not be used by women

Pal himself.

One does not wish to jump to any hasty conclusion here, but suffice to state Carl Lewis' recent statement: "You can always tell by looking at somebody if he is using steroids."

While it would be unfair to convict Pal on these shallow grounds, all the evidence points to him being guilty.

Guilty, innocent his case will have its fallout on Indian sport, especially in weightlifting and other such disciplines in which we perform better than usual.

Primary among the effects will

**THE shadow of
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And Indian sport will
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be what is now recognised as the 'Ben Johnson Syndrome'—If one guy is caught then the rest of the team must be on dope also. It has been 17 months since Johnson was stripped off his gold medal at Seoul. Yet Canadian sport is still experiencing repercussions of guilt. At the Auckland Games, the Canadian team wore T-shirts saying, "We're not on drugs. But thank you for asking."

The shadow of doubt must now fall on Indian participants wherever they go. Our inflated medal tally at Auckland of 13 golds, eight silvers and 11 bronze,

AND DOWNRIGHT UGLY

Playing Russian Roulette with his health

There is a dark side to steroid use. It is complete in a particular sense. There are the direct anabolic agents, anabolic steroids, which enhance muscle growth, and there are the indirect agents, anabolic steroids, which enhance muscle growth by other means.

There are rumours of other, still unpublicised, masking agents. At least one synthetic that achieves the desired effect is known, proteridol, a gout drug, has been banned by the I.O.C.

The index of the athletic pharmacopoeia is long and gets longer. Rare and expensive human growth hormones can, some say, turn children into massive competitive machines and aid muscle growth in adults. Stories circulate about puberty suppressants that allow gymnasts to keep their finely balanced girlish bodies. But no drugs pose as much of a threat to the fairness and legitimacy of athletic competition as anabolic steroids do.

Steroids provide legitimate treatment for certain hormonal and blood disorders, among others, but they have also been put to other uses for decades. Developed in the 1930s, they had their first known non-medical use not long after—by Nazi doctors who gave them to soldiers in the hope of enhancing their aggressiveness in battle. After World War II Soviet sports officials reportedly noted that Nazi's had, and by the 1960s began giving steroids to athletes. It is known that Soviet officials used steroids to American athletes, initially as a kind of chemical cold war.

Steroids do not build muscles directly but rather allow the body to bulk up with training. They are often compared with natural levels of testosterone. Dr. M. R. T. Tennant, their

use is now recognised as the 'Ben Johnson Syndrome'—If one guy is caught then the rest of the team must be on dope also. It has been 17 months since Johnson was stripped off his gold medal at Seoul. Yet Canadian sport is still experiencing repercussions of guilt. At the Auckland Games, the Canadian team wore T-shirts saying, "We're not on drugs. But thank you for asking."

The use of steroids has persisted despite growing evidence that the drugs can have harmful and even disastrous side effects. In men, balding, loss of shrinkage of the testicles and infertility are among the most immediate consequences, though all of those except balding may be reversible. In women, who normally produce very low levels of testosterone and therefore gain relatively much more from steroids, prolonged use can cause irreversible effects like facial hair, deepening of the voice and an abnormally enlarged clitoris. Injuries among users can be more serious than usual, since they often involve connective tissues like tendons that have not grown strong enough to support the increased muscle mass.

Although the research is again skimpy, liver, prostate and testicular cancers have been linked to steroid use, as has the hastened onset of atherosclerosis—obstructed arteries. "In my opinion," says Dr. Tennant, "young athletes who take heavy doses of anabolic steroids for 60 to 90 days should expect to die in their 30s or 40s."

Growing evidence also points to the conclusion that steroids, which appear to be addictive, can harm the mind. Dr. Harrison Pope, a psychiatrist at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., has documented such effects—popularly called "roid rage"—as mania, wild aggression and delusions in some steroid users. One of his subjects had a friend videotape him as he deliberately drove a car into a tree at 35 m.p.h. Says Pope, ominously: "It appears the serious psychiatric effects are far more common than the serious medical ones."



P RIMARY among the effects will be what is now recognized as the 'Ben Johnson Syndrome.... At the Auckland Games, the Canadian team wore T-shirts saying "We're not on drugs, but thank you for asking"

A VISIT TO SUBRATA PAL'S HOME

is naturally being looked at with suspicion. Moreso, because of the 32 medals, our weightlifters have contributed 24, including 12 golds. If Pal is allowed to hang on to his spoils, which is highly unlikely, then the total and the ratio increases. "We should not be treated as villains on account of one alleged bad boy in our team," said three of the medal-winning weightlifters. But that's the way it is. And Indian sport will have to live with this for some time. As Canada did.... rather, still does.

THE SOMEONE-GAVE-ME-SOMETHING STAGE

EVEN though individualistic in essence, modern sport is in spirit, a team effort. An athlete's performance

Subrata Pal could have undertaken a planned steroid course without the help and encouragement of his coaches

depends as much on the back-up support or the team as on the actual execution in the arena. Ace racing driver Niki Lauda never kept a single trophy he won on the race track. Instead he gave it to his mechanics saying that they deserved it more than he did. That is modern sport!

It is therefore natural to assume that when an athlete takes banned drugs (Every one takes drugs. It is the banned drug which is illegal) he is doing so either on the instance or with the consent of his doctor/coach/manager. The latter hence are as guilty as the athletes and should receive similar punishment.

In India, the percentage of "duped and doped athletes" is high. It is believed that the excessive use of drugs or ergogenic aids (as they are

No, he didn't know when he would be coming back and he had no idea where he was. And sorry, my father was also not at home.

The mother and a sister came into the room. The mother had large, expressive, sad eyes behind thick rimmed spectacles. The public shame was too much. She could not bear it and her face bore the brunt of her suffering. Who would have thought that lines of black impersonal newspaper in a newspaper could cause so much of damage. But here was living proof.

"We rarely got to see him," she said, "he was in camp most of the time. Seven, eight months, for the past six to seven years... sometimes his coach allowed him a few days off and he would come then. Twelve years as a weightlifter... so much of time has passed and now he can't sleep at night. He is so distressed."

The daughter stood to one side, the more than covering the lower part of her face. There was a shadow of grief in her eyes. She was looking at her father with a mixture of pity and anger.

will meet with the federation people and they will decide." And then he gave the first hint of the persecution that the family was feeling now, after several journalists visited their house. He said: "They are coming after us because we are Bengalis. There was a drug scandal in the '86 Asian Games but there was not so much of publicity..." his voice trailed off.

There was a silence in the room now. It was a heavy silence punctuated now and then by the sounds of the street outside. A truck rumbled past; a cycle rickshaw went past blowing its horn. There was now an underlying hint to the visitor to leave quickly. But he had rattled along, on a cold early morning, on a suburban train for an hour and a half and the result: a thick skin. He couldn't get the message. The mother got up, a faint disgust on her face and she left the room followed by her daughter. The son continued to stare his penetrating stare. He was young, with shoulder-length hair, in his early twenties and underdressed out of his mind. He shanty wished he was with his friends. He was surrounded by

having to face these embarrassing situations.

The visitor probed again, a little desperately. But the stonewalling continued: "I don't know where Subrata is? I don't know when he will come back."

And then there is a sense of disgust. Why probe? One should respect a family's sense of shame, instead of trying to feed on it like a parasite. Private anguish should be left in a private domain and so, the puzzle would remain: somewhere along the way to the Commonwealth silver medal, somebody had been inflicted with a wild ambition. Victory at any cost. Was it the father or the son or the coach?

It was time to leave.

Outside, the sun shone brightly but it was February sun. Nothing to be afraid of, it was soothing and friendly to the skin. But in Subrata Pal's life, it was a time of perpetual darkness. There is no doubt about what will happen. There will be a fall and a great one. Although the visitor was not at all sure, there is a strong feeling that the son is a lost cause.

JAGDISH YADAV



Subrata Pal trains under the eagle eye of his coach. Are the athletes solely to blame?

officially called) began in a big way in Indian sport prior to the 1982 Delhi Asian Games due to the influence of foreign coaches who were deputed to train the athletes in the various disciplines. Drugs did exist before; but in a very unsystematic and unscientific manner. There is this story of a Bulgarian coach who on his arrival for a coaching assignment in India asked for the 'medicine list' of the sportsmen he was to train. When told there that wasn't any, he said: "How do you expect to participate without having a good 'medical list'?" He then arranged to get the required 'medicine' through his country's diplomatic channels.

If it is true that the foreign coaches are responsible for the systematic doping of Indian athletes, ironically, it is only now that our sportsmen are being

caught by dope-busters. The previous haphazard and disorganised doping didn't get them into too much trouble.

It is impossible to believe that a simpleton like Subrata Pal could have undertaken a planned anabolic steroid course without the help and encouragement of his coaches.

Former international lifters feel coach P.S. Sandhu and manager A.K. Sarkar implicitly aided taking of drugs. One of them, based in Delhi said: "Sandhu was the coach of the Indian squad in the 1986 Seoul Asiad, when three lifters were caught taking drugs. He should have been suspended and not given any international assignments again. The influential chairman of selectors Gopal Khanra has got Sandhu re-instated."

Another theory in SAI circles is that the rivalry between two coaches, P.S. Sandhu and Salwan, has led to lifters taking drugs. The race is between Sandhu and Salwan for the Dronacharya

THE HISTORY OF DRUGS IN INDIAN SPORT

The history of drugs in Indian sport is a long and sordid one. It began in the 1950s when the Indian government, under the leadership of Jawahar Lal Nehru, decided to send a team to the 1954 Asian Games in Manila. The team was led by a coach named Subrata Pal, who was a former international lifter. Pal was known for his use of drugs, and he was caught by the Philippine authorities. The Indian government, however, did not take any action against him. This was the first time that an Indian athlete was caught taking drugs, but it did not lead to any significant changes in the way Indian sport was run. In the years that followed, more and more athletes began to take drugs, and the use of drugs became a widespread phenomenon in Indian sport. This was due to a number of factors, including the influence of foreign coaches, the lack of proper medical supervision, and the desire of athletes to win at all costs. The use of drugs in Indian sport has since become a major problem, and it has led to the suspension of many athletes and the tarnishing of the reputation of Indian sport.

At the same time, many Indian athletes have been caught taking drugs. One of the most famous cases was that of the Indian shot putter, Kishan Singh, who was caught taking drugs in 1982. He was suspended for two years, but he returned to the sport and won a silver medal at the 1986 Asian Games. This was a major victory for India, but it also showed that the use of drugs in Indian sport was still a problem. In the years since then, more and more athletes have been caught taking drugs, and the use of drugs in Indian sport has become a major problem.

The next case of drug taking was that of the Indian shot putter, Kishan Singh, who was caught taking drugs in 1982. He was suspended for two years, but he returned to the sport and won a silver medal at the 1986 Asian Games. This was a major victory for India, but it also showed that the use of drugs in Indian sport was still a problem. In the years since then, more and more athletes have been caught taking drugs, and the use of drugs in Indian sport has become a major problem. The use of drugs in Indian sport has since become a major problem, and it has led to the suspension of many athletes and the tarnishing of the reputation of Indian sport. The use of drugs in Indian sport has since become a major problem, and it has led to the suspension of many athletes and the tarnishing of the reputation of Indian sport.

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Why can't Alexander Singh reproduce the impressive stats in international cricket?



100

At the 1986 Seoul Asian, four Indian competitors returned positive results in the dope tests. The weightlifters, N.G. Naidu, Tara Singh and Balwinder Singh (all Railway employees) were found to have used 'nandrolone' and anabolic steroids. The trio were banned from weightlifting by the national federation for two years. A former international lifter said, "Tara Singh took to drugs under the influence of Bulgarian coach, Lubimir Gradinarov, prior to the 1982 Delhi Asian. It then became a habit."

Seoul's Daily Chong Chong Shin newspaper said that while Daljit Singh, in his letter to the U.S. State Dept. was "not aware of his medical condition," he took U.S. medicine and the Chong Chong Shin said Daljit Singh took a "kind of cold medicine" which had been given to him by the U.S. military at Seoul. Another South U.S. Sanitin contradicted this story. He maintained that Daljit Singh had fever at Seoul and took medicine which started the trouble. Daljit added to the confusion by denying that he had taken herbal drugs or having had fever or taking medicines at Seoul. Such contradictory statements confirmed the view that he was doped.

There have been doping cases in football also. BFF's left winger Nasar Singh (1968-1978) was known to play important matches only on dope. He was called "Charat Nasar" in Punjab football circles. BFF midfielder Ajib Singh's untimely death is also supposedly due to excessive doping. Mohammed Akbar who scored a goal in 16 secs. for Mohun Bagan against East Bengal in the 1978 Calcutta league match supposedly played the match doped. He had glazed eyes and was afterwards taken to hospital for a stomach wash and medical care for a week.

New Products

award Salwan achieved much success with the Indian women's team at the Asian weightlifting championships. So it is believed that Sandhu and senior weightlifting officials tacitly encouraged taking of drugs.

Dr P S.M Chandran, Deputy Director Sports Sciences Sports Authority of India (SAI) categorically stated that many Indian sportspersons take dope at the behest of their coaches. "Drug intake increases prior to an international meet. It is done with impunity in India as there is no fear of detection," says Dr Chandran.

After attending the World Congress of Sports Medicine, Dr Chandran is of the view that in India the subject is still treated quite casually. "Most Indian coaches have a shallow knowledge of steroids and so the athletes suffer" declares Dr Chandran. "For instance, if anabolic steroids are given in a injection form, it must be combined with a high protein diet and regular exercise."

What is most shocking and revealing is Dr Chandran's personal experience with Indian sportspersons. "Many Indian sportspersons come to me with ampules of durabolin, dianabol, decadurabolin or oralbolin which cost Rs 3 each and can be obtained from most chemists. These ampules contain anabolic steroids. I have always refused to inject such ampules but the athletes go to a nearby doctor and for a small sum of money get injected."

Many ex-internationals agree that it is only since the 1982 Asiad that drugs in Indian sport moved to a sophisticated level. Earlier, many weightlifters, wrestlers and those competing in strength-related events took opium, 'afeem' and ganja, since the idea was to boost the body and mind with "uppers", which is what steroids basically are. Before the 1982 Asiad the rooms of athletes attending the Patiala training camps were littered with phials, discarded ampules and injections. An enterprising sweeper noticed them and brought it to the notice of the



TAKING drugs seems to be a short cut to success...and ultimately a life in comfort. It's a gamble worth taking since the odds are stacked against you not being busted.

authorities who chose to remain silent. After all, Delhi was to host the Games and the chance of any Indian athlete being caught for dope was negligible.

In spite of all the influence of foreign coaches and their methodical drug programmes many Indian athletes still rely on native "medicines". Subrata Pal's reference to herbal (*kaburaji*) medicine at a preparation camp is proof enough. P T Usha travels to Calcutta to visit a *kaburaji* doctor, apparently to take medicine for her heel injury. But rumour has it that she might be on some kind of 'herbal dope'. Whether such medicines can in fact build muscle or have similar effects like



How many athletes will have the courage to say "No"?

steroids is debatable and indeed doubtful.

Of course, the advantage of using "herbal accessories" is they are not on the banned list and moreover, they are difficult to detect through urine tests.

What Usha is taking is not known, but her coach Nambiar claims: "I am sure if Usha had taken drugs her timing would come down to 48 secs in the 400m". Even Nambiar, in all his diplomacy and discretion, has admitted: "There are Indian athletes who are on drugs. There is no way to prove this. People take drugs in the privacy of their rooms and their toilets. But there is a suspicion. Recently, some

medicine shops in Delhi told me about athletes buying drugs from there. So I don't think we are all innocent."

The discrepancies in performances at home and in international competitions have led many to believe that Indian sportsmen take drugs to enhance performance during trials where drug tests are non-existent. Their sole aim is to "make the phoren trip." Then when it comes to international competition, where drugs tests are stringent, they can't match their home performances. Says Nambiar on that subject: "I can only conclude that they are afraid of the drug tests and so do not take it in

international competition."

The Subrata Pal case seems to have ended that phase of drug-taking in Indian sport. Fear of being detected in world competition no longer seems to hold back an Indian from indulging in dope.

But it is not Subrata Pal alone who should bare this awesome responsibility on his well-built shoulders. There are others before him who have been caught. But Pal's is unfortunate that his case has happened after the Johnson scandal. And he is the victim of the 'Johnson Syndrome'. Pal's mistake is not that he used drugs, but that he was the fool who got caught.

HOW TO 'DOPE' THE LEGAL WAY

When you hear the word "steroids" you think of the daily produced synthetic hormones of the world's great athletes. But what if you could have the body to produce natural steroids? It seems to be possible. The secret is in the use of bee pollen.

While synthetic steroids are used to enhance muscle function, forcing muscles to produce more power, some special foods which are totally natural and safe, stimulate the glands and maintain the natural balance of the body to grow in strength and power.

And what are these magical foods? Bee pollen, cheese, broccoli, lean red meats, and honey. Bee pollen is like bee pollen. Unfortunately, it is not the most powerful. Bee pollen is an essential source of energy and is something that the athlete needs to maintain up the body's metabolic process. It contains all the amino acids in proportion. It also contains all the vitamins, 18 vitamins, 18 essential amino acids, 18 enzymes and 18 essential minerals. It includes nucleic acid, fructose, lactose, and glucose.

Research with bee pollen has shown that it improves work performance, promotes energy, and it also retards fatigue. On the medical side, it has been found to count in the red blood cells as well as the white blood cells. About the same effect on the body is seen when they pop tabs or inject themselves with a steroid.

Hold on a second before you rush off to order the magic potion. What you've got to understand is the magic is in it's protein that plays the vital role. Make sure your protein intake is adequate and that should do the trick.

If synthetic steroids are taken, does it mean that you've got to stay on the straight and narrow if you're waiting to get caught? really. If you're really keen on making your body to the limit and want to toe the line too!

ON RECORD

What has been said about the controversy

"There is nothing new about their success. Drugs are harmful, not helpful. The hard work of the boys, their physical fitness and the dedication of the coaches and others have brought this success. There is no question of their taking drugs."

Manmohan Singh, Indian team doctor

"At least 80 per cent of the weightlifters in Auckland used illegal performance boosters."

A high-ranking Commonwealth Games doctor

"We have a large white chest and a little black spot and it's the little black spot that's getting all the highlight."

Wicket-keeper manager Myrddin John after two of his weightlifters failed to pass the drug tests

"Drug abuse by athletes in strength-oriented field events (hammer throw, shot put) is about 70 per cent and about 20 per cent among sprinters."

Dr Richard Edmond, director of medical services for the New Zealand team

"These are drastic times and demand drastic action. The chests must be identified and buried alive."

Sam Coffa, president, Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation

"I am 100 per cent convinced and confident that some official or administrator was a party to their taking drugs and since they have tested positive, they are being identified and made scapegoats while the guilty officials are going scot free."

Graben May, 1974 Commonwealth Games gold medalist in weightlifting

THEY'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN AGAIN

WHY did you do it in the first place?

Much has been said and written about the ambitions and aspirations of the sportsman to be repeated here. Of course, the same drives and motivations are relevant in the Indian context too.

Moreover, the desire to go abroad for competition and the total absence of drug-testing in the country, actually tempt the athlete to take performance-enhancing drugs.

Apart from being disgraced and the medical complications that go with anabolic steroids someone like Subrata Pal would not lose much by getting caught. On the other side of the coin, he has plenty to gain. His two silver medals would have fetched him a cool Rs one lakh as part of the Union Ministry's incentive scheme. A ticket collector in the Indian Railways, Pal would surely have got a promotion. Taking drugs therefore seems to be a short cut path to success...and ultimately a life in comfort. It's a gamble worth taking since the odds are stacked against you not being busted. Though the WFI president spelt out the punishment for Pal. "He will have to reimburse the total costs to Auckland and back and he will be suspended for two years"

A former national weightlifting coach who wishes to remain anonymous says: "Maybe the incentives offered by the government are in some way responsible for the increase in drug abuse in Indian sport. Apart from the cash there are other perks like the Arjuna Awards, promotions and other benefits that go with such a triumph. The temptation sometimes is so much that a person easily succumbs to it."

The Sports Ministry too sees the logic in the above theory and will probably review their cash incentive policy which gives Rs one lakh for a gold medal, Rs 50,000 for a silver and Rs. 25,000

for a bronze.

The absence of drug tests in the country further encourages our sportsmen and women. Mr V.C. Shukla, the former president of the Indian Olympic Association, had intended to start a drug-testing laboratory. But the costs are prohibitive. Explains Dr. Chandran: "The only place comparatively equipped to detect drugs in India is the Madras Race Club lab, functional since 1982. Horses are tested for dope there. In 1981, the year it was being set up, the cost for those limited facilities was Rs 65 lakhs. Current costs would exceed a crore of rupees." The other difficulty is that the labs have to be recognised and accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) which has given status to a mere 20 labs. In Asia only the labs in Tokyo and Seoul are recognised.

Maybe it might be a good idea to stop the incentives and use that money towards setting up a drug-testing lab. But on a more serious note.

The drug epidemic in Indian sport is spreading and it's time the authorities looked into the symptoms and the curse.

May be, there is yet hope for

THE SAYINGS OF SUBRATA PAL

"I was literally shocked at all the things that have appeared about me in the Indian newspapers—You know, I've been quoted in the Press several times but till now (Feb 1st), I've not spoken to or met any journalist."

"The amount of money being paid to the Press has been enough to make me feel that I let the Press down. I let the journalists down. It is a shame that not a single journalist in Auckland has been able to..."



meet me there but there are reports in Indian papers which have quoted me. Also, the reports stated that my medals have been confiscated but the truth is that the medals are in my custody.

I didn't know I was involved in a drug scandal. In fact, I thought that somebody was ill in the house. I was out of station for the last eight months. Naturally, I took the first available flight.

I was really caught in a tight spot. I thought that I have been allowed to take the medals home. This is what I am thinking.

I will never back on anything.

again despite these tensions and hazards. I will win a gold in the next Commonwealth Games to redeem myself.

Subrata met me this morning. After I told him repeatedly that he must have had something for the urine samples to show traces of the banned substances, he insisted that he had never used any anabolic steroid or other drug. He said what he thought resulted in a positive test was the herbal supplement (ashwagandha) he took at the Bangalore camp—Gopal Kishore, Indian Weightlifting Vice-President.

Subrata Pal's mistake isn't that he used drugs, but that he got caught

Indian sport in the recent news that representatives of the pharmaceutical industry have warned the Government that unless prices of most drugs are raised, they might be forced to abandon their production or cut it down.

This might prevent us further embarrassment in the sporting arenas of the world.

By Andy O'Brien, with reports from Novy Kapadia, Delhi and Partab Ramchand, Madras

The Clank-and-Grunt Men Are The Kings Of Drug takers

H EY, ho. Here we go again. Another Big Games, another drugs scandal to write about.

We're all getting quite good at drugs stories these days: steroids and testosterone and human growth hormone and all that. We've got the entire contents of Dr Jekyll's lab shelf worked out.

What is it next? Pure andrenochrome filched from fresh cadavers? Alligator hearts? Wolverine glands? A substance so potent that one sniff will turn the mildest person into a raving monster with the strength of 10 gorillas, the speed of a dozen cheetahs and the mind of a lobotomized rhinoceros...

We had the third competitor caught with drugs in his system, and, wow, what a surprise, it was yet another weightlifter, this one called Gareth Hives. That makes two Welshmen in all. It seems that every morning at nine all the journeis in Auckland have to assemble at the athletes' village to hear yet another story about drug-addled weightlifters.

In short, there is a great deal of hysterical talk about drugs. If we wish to condemn the use of drugs in sport, or otherwise get serious, let us do so with a sense of perspective. I refuse to see Ben Johnson as the wickedest man in history, or even in the

history of sport. He was just another sportsman who gave everything he had to win.

The All Black who cheated to win a penalty on some famous occasion or other is regarded as a bit of a lad or, if you live over here, a hero. Johnson is just another cheat, that's all.

What is it next? Pure andrenochrome filched from fresh cadavers? Alligator hearts? Wolverine glands?

So is Hives, so is Ricky Chaplin, so is Subrata Kumar Paul: the weightlifting trio that got caught this time.

The thing about performance-enhancing drugs is that sport loses its point when it gets pharmaceutical. We want to applaud people who are superhuman,

not people who have made themselves less than human. The Johnson Affair has spoilt some of the taste of track and field: these days one is reluctant to celebrate a win too much. In the words of the song, we won't get fooled again.

You'd have to be an insane optimist to celebrate a weightlifting victory here until 72 hours had elapsed and the sample had tested negative. Out of the 10 positive drug tests at Seoul, eight were from weightlifting.

Me, I am not particularly surprised that weightlifters seem quite happy to take drugs they know will affect their sex lives and play havoc with their livers. The far more surprising thing is that anybody can bear to be a weightlifter at all.

Weightlifting offers the participant the magnificent double of considerable pain and crucifying boredom. Lifters only keep going because they are fanatics. They set themselves little tests: to set a new personal best for three successive lifts from nipple to chin. Clank-grunt, then again clank-grunt, that's half

a kilo better! Now to try and outdo myself at the lying-down jerk.

They are deeply competitive people who long to beat themselves and to beat other people in competition. You don't want to be at a disadvantage, you know everyone else takes them, and everyone knows where to get hold of them—well, why the hell not? It works a bit quicker than a year in the gym, after all.

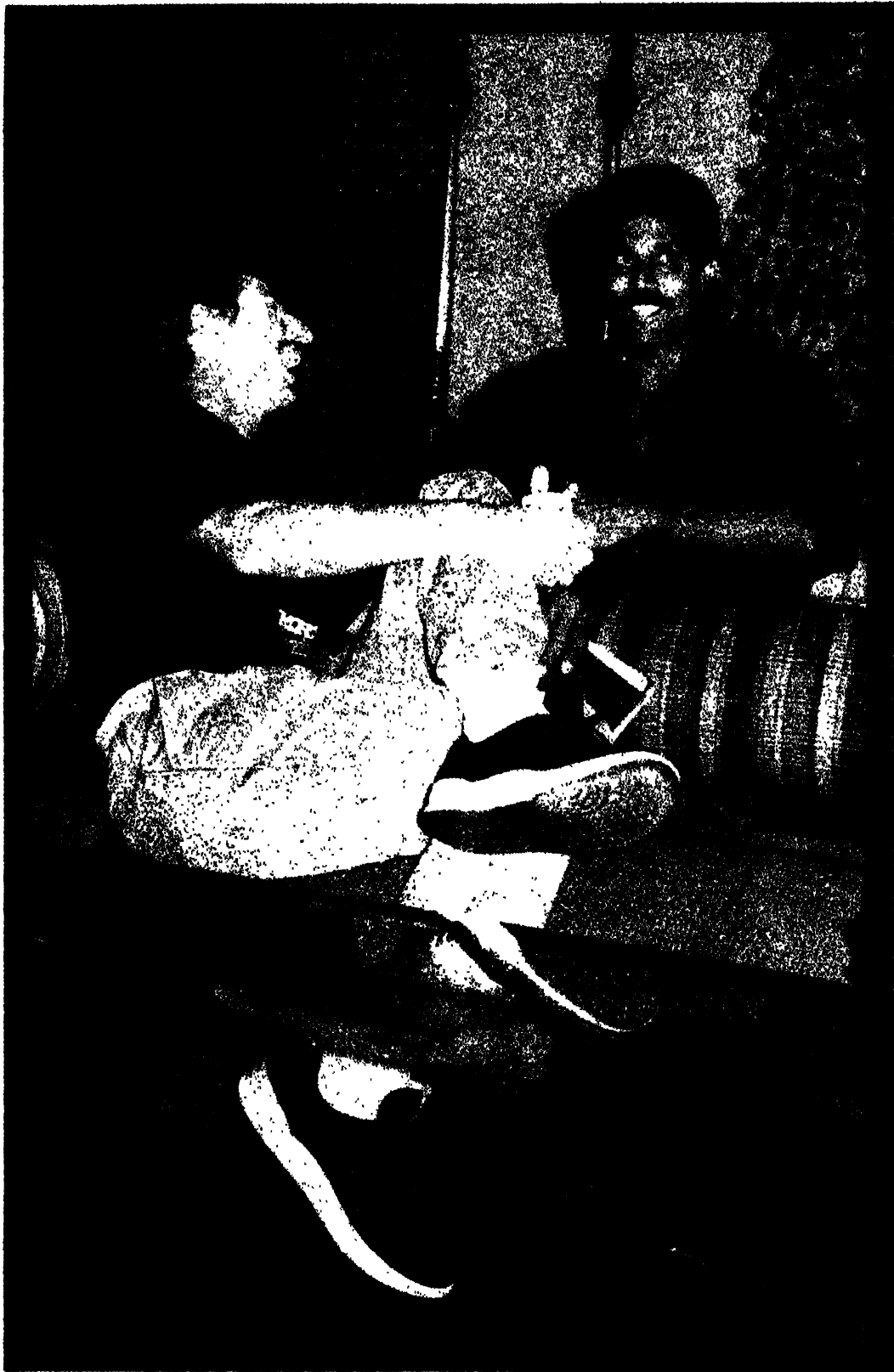
At the Games here they tested 33 per cent of the weightlifters, including 24 medal winners. These did not include, apparently, gold and silver medal in the superheavyweight category, which strikes me as certifiably insane. In the greatest event lies the greatest temptation. What were these officials thinking of?

The drugs issue is with us for a long time. Sport was invented as a form of jolliness, was elevated to a character-former, particularly for the sons of Empire (hence the Commonwealth Games) and is now pursued as an end in itself. The consequent intensity is what makes sport a source of fascination. It also explains why people are willing to cheat and to take substantial risks with their bodies to gain a slight edge, or to keep on even terms.

And the bored, demented hordes of weightlifters are the kings of drug-takers.

Simon Barnes, Auckland
Courtesy The Times, London

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



UTPAL SORWAR

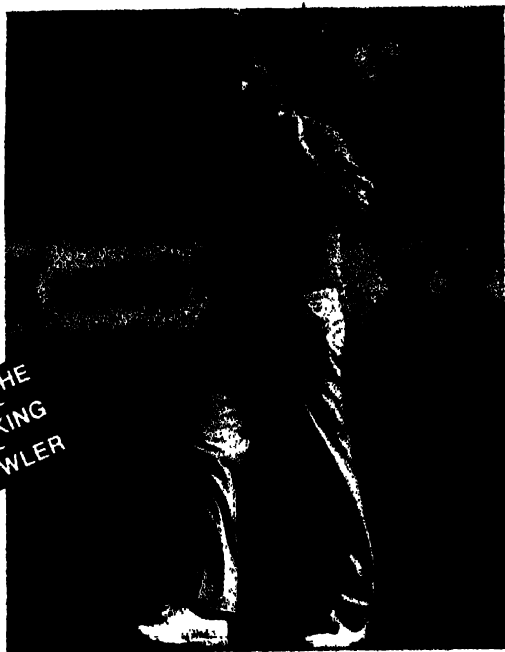
Can Kapil Dev join Richard Hadlee in the 400-wicket club? Now that he's achieved the feat it's a laughing matter for the Kiwi all rounder, but not for Kapil

WEIGHTS AND THE LADY

0

COVER STORY

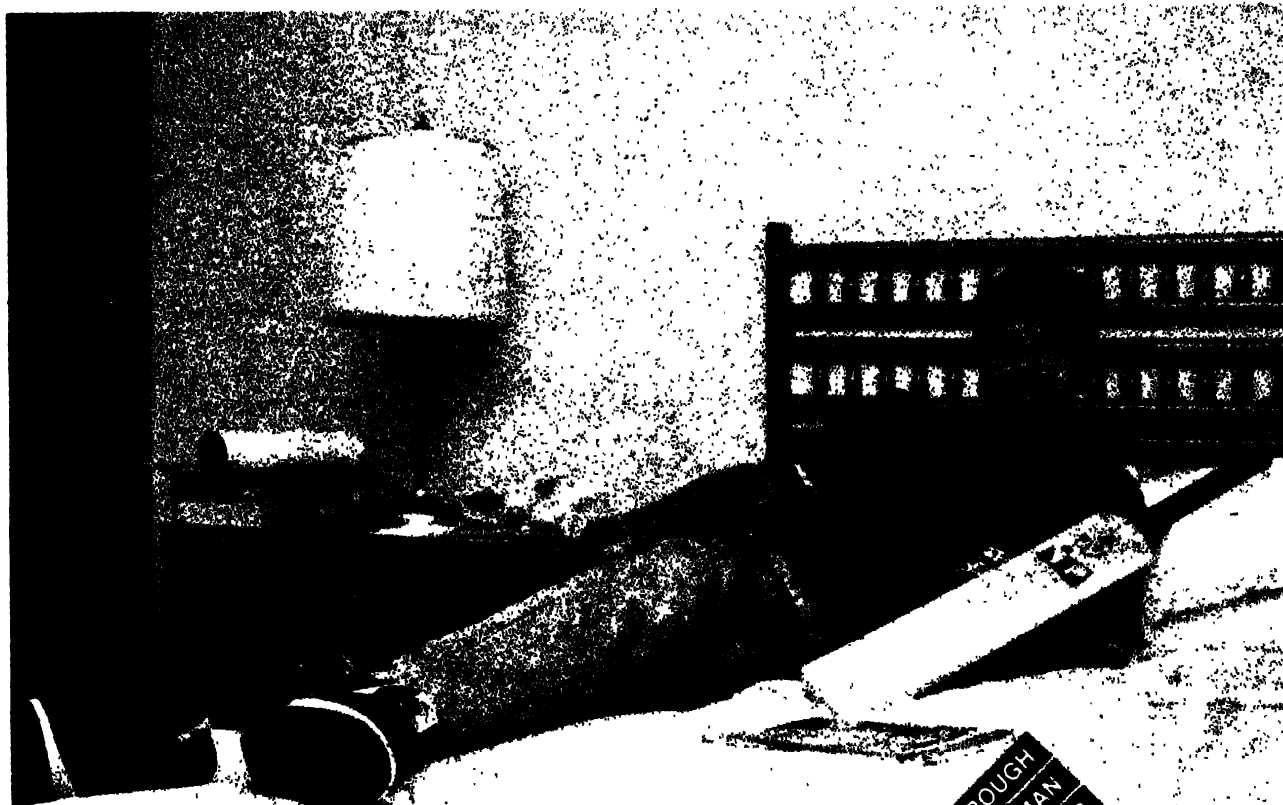
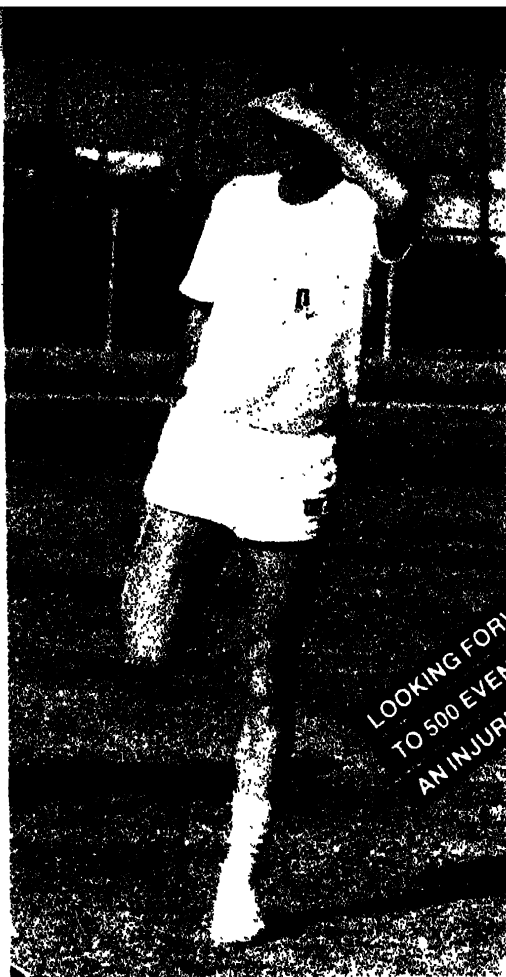
THE
THINKING
BOWLER



Richard Hadlee becomes the founder-member of the 400-wicket club. And the Kiwis flatten a young Indian side in the Christchurch Test

400

LOOKING FORWARD
TO 500 EVEN WITH
AN INJURED LE



A THOROUGH
GENTLEMAN
OFF THE FIELD

THERE was the element of a fairy tale to Richard Hadlee reaching his historic 400th Test wicket. Simply because it arrived at least a fortnight prematurely. Till three weeks before the first India versus New Zealand Test in Christchurch it was reasonably clear that the bowler would have to wait till at least the last week of February and Auckland's Eden Park to get to his landmark. Surgery upon a

troublesome achilles tendon meant that he would have to first pass a fitness test before staking his claim to a place in the side.

Hadlee bowled two sessions at the nets at Christchurch's Lancaster Park less than 48 hours before the first Test was to begin and pronounced himself fit and raring to go. Said Bob Cunis, the New Zealand cricket manager: "I have always felt with Richard that he is a true professional. He feels he is one hundred

per cent fit and when a man like him makes that sort of comment you wouldn't expect him to go out unless it was true."

By the second evening of the Test, Cunis' and Hadlee's own faith had been justified. In a dramatic opening to the Indian reply to the New Zealand first innings score of 459, Hadlee had opener Woorkerj Raman plumb in front of the wicket, Sanjay Manjrekar caught at short leg by Andrew Jones and, after a first

stint of six overs (16 runs), Mohammed Azharuddin leg before wicket with one that stayed quite low. Hadlee was within one wicket of history.

But history had to wait until 3 p.m. on day three of the Test. Sanjay Manjrekar was to be an unwilling accomplice in its making. In 1988 another Indian, Arun Lal, was similarly part of a Hadlee milestone when he provided the Sultan of Swing with his record-breaking 374th Test wicket. His newest

HOW RICHARD HADLEE GOT THE

400!

'The motivation card that has become my Bible,' says Hadlee of the following list. He always carries it around in his kit bag.



1. Fear is negative. Desire is positive.
2. Your mind is your brain. It is better than a computer.
3. Attitude is a frame of mind.
4. Simulation: putting yourself back

in a situation in which you last enjoyed success.

5. Visualising what you want to see happen. It works if you believe it strongly enough.
6. Belief is another crucial factor. Once confidence is there, success nearly always comes.
7. Think of the rewards of success - winning.
8. Self-belief - know your own worth and abilities.
9. Goals, aims and targets are an essential part of my philosophy.
10. Wanting to achieve is the next stage in the formula.
11. Control refers to the way you have to convert all your dreaming and visualising into physical action.
12. Enjoyment is the next part of the equation.
13. Never get tired, just pleasantly weary.
14. Wanting to be happy with your performance, even if someone doesn't.

THE WISDOM OF

Richard Hadlee

A COLLECTION OF SOME AMAZING QUOTES FROM AN AMAZING CRICKETER

record of being the first man to touch the 400 Test wickets mark was, by his own admission, more difficult. In the eleven months leading up to history, Hadlee had bowled only 30 overs in club cricket since recovering from surgery. "I've had a lot of disappointing times at Lancaster Park," he was to say of his home ground. "The world record of Test wickets which I shared with Ian Botham on 373 never happened here and I had to go to India to get it. There was some

"They had their expectations and their deadlines. For me there was always another ball."

1 "Each ball is a challenge irrespective of who I am bowling to."

2 "When I am looking at a batsman I am not simply looking at him—I am analysing him."

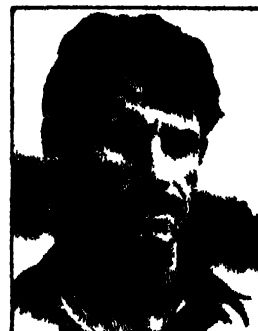
3 "There are four things that go through my mind when I am bowling, four key words. Rhythm, the off stump, Hate and Lilee (What would he have done now?)."

4 "Landmarks keep me going."

5 "I am a workaholic. I spend hours preparing myself physically and psychologically for the reality in the middle."

6 "There have been two or three times when I wanted to give it all up. I kept convincing myself that 'There are other things to life than sport or cricket'."

7 "I am in a sense, a 24-hour cricketer. When I am not



actually playing the game, I am thinking deeply about it."

8 "Personal records fire me. The world record was my inspiration long

nicety about it (the 400th wicket) happening in Christchurch in front of my parents and friends around. It was a nice little tribute with 400 roses being brought out to me there. "The couriers of the rose bouquets were his 12-year-old niece Jaime Provan and her classmate Melanie Brown.

It took a little longer than I had hoped. I make

a habit of being one wicket short of where I want to get to. The 300th wicket (Allan Border's) took until tea time (in Wellington 1985-86) the 100th first class one was late on another day, and I blew out on the verge of the world record a few times," the record-breaker was to state with an impatience of someone who knows what he wants, how to get it and how long it

ought to take to get it. "I think the media was probably under more stress than I was," the champion was to add at his Press conference in Lancaster Park's well-appointed dining room. "They had their expectations and their deadlines. For me there was always another ball."

Hadlee believes in setting himself targets. His next goals were 3000 runs in Tests (he had 2912 at the end of the first Test against India) and 100 occasions on which he has taken five wickets or more in an innings. He came within a whisker of the second goal when he captured four for 69 in the Indian second innings as the visitors hurtled to a ten wicket defeat at Lancaster Park. "And, of course,

WHAT RIVALS THINK OF HADLEE!

"It was like batting against the World XI at one end and Ilford Second eleven at the other." (An anonymous England batsman on the difference between Hadlee and the other Kiwi bowlers)

before it was within my reach."

9 "Even now (sitting on his hotel bed at the end of the day's play) I am thinking of the one wicket needed to get India all out."

10 "My favourite fantasy was standing in goal for New Zealand during a World Cup Soccer final against Brazil—and saving a penalty!"

11 "There is no point in getting uptight as that could affect your concentration and eventually reduce your effectiveness."

12 "It makes you feel good when people recognise you on the street and you can hear them saying 'That's Richard Hadlee? I thought he was bigger'. My wife Karen walks behind me and hears all the feedback."

13 "Basically, fitness has three important uses—It allows you to operate more efficiently for a longer period before you tire, it prevents and delays injuries, it increases your chances of success as it complements mental toughness "

14 "For me the evening in the hotel after six hours of hard work is not a switch-off period at all."

15 "My most inspiring sight was seeing Dennis Lillee



running in to bowl during a WSC match in 1979."

16 Muhammad Ali is easily my favourite sportsman."

Compiled by Mudar Patherya

RASHMEE HARI DAS



I'm on my way to 500 Test wickets now he declared with his tongue not so firmly in his cheek

The reasons for the deification of Richard Hadlee in New Zealand are not hard to find. They go beyond his personal achievements because his personal achievements have inescapably been linked with the fortunes of his team. No single New Zealander has carried so much weight on his shoulders. New Zealand has won 21 Test matches since Hadlee made his

"Kapil is the most likely man to overtake me... but then you never know with the Indian selectors"

ON TOP OF THE WORLD!

HADLEE'S CONTRIBUTION IN 20 OUT OF 22 NEW ZEALAND'S TEST VICTORIES

HADLEE'S BEST FIGURES

1	7-50	19-20	19-20
2	7-50	19-20	19-20
3	7-50	19-20	19-20
4	7-50	19-20	19-20
5	7-50	19-20	19-20
6	7-50	19-20	19-20
7	7-50	19-20	19-20
8	7-50	19-20	19-20
9	7-50	19-20	19-20
10	7-50	19-20	19-20
11	7-50	19-20	19-20
12	7-50	19-20	19-20
13	7-50	19-20	19-20
14	7-50	19-20	19-20
15	7-50	19-20	19-20
16	7-50	19-20	19-20
17	7-50	19-20	19-20
18	7-50	19-20	19-20
19	7-50	19-20	19-20
20	7-50	19-20	19-20

AGAINST

England
India
England
West Indies
India
Australia
SA Lanka
SA Lanka
England
SA Lanka
SA Lanka
Pakistan
Pakistan
Australia
Australia
Australia
England
West Indies
India
India

AT

Christchurch
Wellington
Wellington
Dunedin
Wellington
Auckland
Christchurch
Wellington
Christchurch
Christchurch
Christchurch
Christchurch
Christchurch
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Christchurch
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Christchurch
Christchurch
Christchurch

WICKETS

1973-74
1974-75
1975-76
1976-77
1977-78
1978-79
1979-80
1980-81
1981-82
1982-83
1983-84
1984-85
1985-86
1986-87
1987-88
1988-89
1989-90
1990-91
1991-92
1992-93
1993-94
1994-95
1995-96
1996-97
1997-98
1998-99
1999-00
2000-01

Mode of Dismissals

Bowled
LWB
Caught
Caught and bowled

Wickets Percentage

85	21.09
74	18.36
235	59.31
8	2.23

Richard Hadlee in Test Cricket

	T	I	W	W	W	W	F	OT	BALLS	WICKETS	W	W	W	W
At home	45	27	5	100	1000	22.22	7	10	1000	400	100	22.75	10	7.25
Away	35	25	21	101	1010	22.22	5	10	1000	400	100	22.75	20	5.25
Countrywise														
Pakistan	10	10	5	100	1000	22.22	3	5	1000	400	100	22.75	4	5.41
England	10	10	5	100	1000	22.22	5	7	1000	400	100	22.75	7	5.43
Australia	12	12	6	100	1000	22.22	4	12	1000	400	100	22.75	12	5.42
India	12	12	6	100	1000	22.22	4	12	1000	400	100	22.75	4	7.25
West Indies	10	10	5	100	1000	22.22	5	10	1000	400	100	22.75	5	5.43
SA Lanka	5	5	5	100	1000	22.22	5	5	1000	400	100	22.75	5	5.43
	100	100	100	100	1000	22.22	10	10	1000	400	100	22.75	10	5.43

This is like the first four-minute mile or climbing Mount Everest

debut in the 1972-73 season. In eight of these wins Hadlee accounted for ten or more wickets in five he took five or more wickets in an innings. And there have been occasions like the latest New Zealand victory—against India in the first Test at Lancaster Park—when he had seven wickets in the match, seven decisive wickets. And if his right arm medium-to-fast bowling is not enough, his left-handed batting in the lower half of the order has made him New Zealand's sixth highest scorer of all time.

It was 20 years ago that Dick Motz became New Zealand's first representative in the 100 Test victims club. Today Hadlee has more than 400. He describes the achievement as 'a bit like the first four-minute mile or climbing Mount Everest'. Hadlee himself thinks the man most likely to overtake him first will be Kapil Dev

("but then you never know with Indian selectors," he added as an aside) "Someone is going to do it eventually but no one forgets the person who did it first," Hadlee remarked.

For someone who has claimed more than 40 per cent of the 400 wickets that New

Zealand needed during their 20 Test victories with Hadlee around, (excluding the recent one at Lancaster Park), he was remarkably nonchalant about his achievements. "It is a great day for international cricket. And for New Zealand cricket," he said.



For statistics-lovers, the magical 400 was achieved on the 488th day of his Test career and his 3200th over spread over 80 Test matches.

When Bishan Singh Bedi, the Indian cricket manager, thought aloud that Richard Hadlee could well become the first specialist bowler to be knighted for his services to cricket, the New Zealander quipped:

"If there's ever been a better fast bowler (than Hadlee), then he certainly didn't come from this planet"...
Bracewell

"Well, I thought Francis Drake was the first bowler to be knighted."

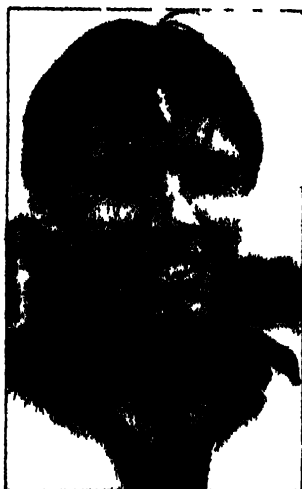
Hadlee teammate and off-spinner John Bracewell may have been exaggerating only slightly when he declared in his syndicated column "The man is amazing and if there's ever been a better fast bowler then he certainly didn't come from this planet."

Ashok Kamath, Christchurch

'I'm on my way to 500 Test wickets now'

MASSACRE!

IT is a pity but with Richard Hadlee occupying centrestage at Lancaster Park the efforts of at least two of his colleagues were drowned in the



So mingy with runs was Snedden that not even the great Hadlee got that kind of respect from the Indians

hosannas that were being dedicated to Test cricket's highest wickettaker Danny Morrison and Martin Snedden, both users of the new ball were two other Kiwis who did quite a bit of shovelling for the Indian grave in Christchurch's Lancaster Park

Morrison, who celebrated his 24th birthday on day two of the first Test, was the one who broke the Indian will to fight in

the first innings after Richard Hadlee had creamed off the first three wickets to fall Morrison ended with five wickets for 75 runs, an impressive statistic though not necessarily the same in terms of the quality of bowling. Be that as it may, it was Morrison who succeeded (when Hadlee failed on the third morning) and forced India to follow on. Just the previous evening, bowling from the Pavilion End, he was hammered for 44 runs off his six overs. His subsequent five wickets were from the far end which, coincidentally, was from where Hadlee took his first three wickets the previous evening.

Snedden, who shares the new ball with Morrison for Auckland in the local Shell Shield bowled an 18-over unrelenting spell spread over three hours and tied down the Indians when they were following on. Snedden also provided the breakthrough when makeshift openers Woorkeri Raman and Manoj Prabhakar appeared set to give the home team a fight. So mingy with runs was

Snedden that he had two for 59 off 25 overs in the Indian second innings. Even the great Hadlee did not get that kind of respect from the Indians. In the 12.5 overs he bowled in the Indian first innings he went for just 20 runs (and got the wickets of Venkatapathi Raju and Manoj Prabhakar). Though the statistics indicate Morrison was more successful, Snedden's role in putting the skids on India cannot be underestimated and by the time the series is over he could be among the men the Indians dread most. Morrison was nowhere near the demon bowler he had appeared to be when the Indians batted a second time. He was plastered all over the place, going for 94 runs off his 19 overs with only Raman's wicket to show for

New Zealand skipper John Wright's marathon 185 was a tribute to his fighting spirit more than anything else. It was a workmanlike innings, not very elegant but worth a great deal because the Indian medium pacers had apparently taken a very good grip on the

match on day one. Restricting the home team to 255 for three on the opening day was not hard at all considering the wicket prepared by Russell Wyllie was nice and hard and the ball was coming on to the bat well. Of the lot, Manoj Prabhakar was especially unlucky. Times without number he had Wright groping against the ball that swung away from the left-handed New Zealand captain. Against the spinners debutant Venkatapathi Raju and Narendra Hirwani Wright was more self-assured. Wright was to admit later that he was a little lucky to get away with play and misses against Prabhakar and end the day batting on 127. He reached his best Test score the following day without much difficulty. Of the other New Zealand batsmen to impress, Andrew Jones looked like a champion. Though Ken Rutherford was the second highest scorer after Wright, it was Jones' innings that looked more solid and wholesome. Jones scored 52. Rutherford who took a double century off the Indians while turning out for Otago a week earlier, blossomed after an unconvincing start in his comeback Test.

The real revelation during the Indian reply to New Zealand's 459 came from nightwatchman Sagar Lakshmi Venkatapathi

MUCH HOPE. MUCH ANTICIPATION. BUT THE NET RESULT IS THAT INDIA'S TEAM OF THE NINETIES IS PACKED OFF WITHIN FOUR DAYS AND A NEAR-INNINGS DEFEAT BY JOHN WRIGHT'S NEW ZEALAND

Raju. He was sent in after Asharuddin was out late on day two for a sparkling but all too brief 48 runs. He stayed on till close to the lunch recess of day three, scoring 31 priceless runs. Raju's batsmanship was disciplined, almost textbook-like. He showed that the rest of the Indian team, with the possible exception of Sidhu had exaggerated Morrison's efficiency. Sidhu, topscorer with 51 in the Indian first innings, was very obviously in great pain after one from Morrison had hit him on his right hand knuckle.

Raju was originally to have batted at number nine but having gone in at number five the previous evening, stayed on till he was the last man out. Apart from the 58 runs he put on for the fourth wicket with Sidhu in the first innings he was to share 35 for the eighth wicket with fellow-debutant Atul Wassan (not out 24) while himself contributing an accomplished 21. On the strength of these two shows nobody should be surprised if Raju bats higher up in the batting order in the weeks to come. Raju was reasonably successful with the ball too. He had three for 86, off 35 overs and though he did not attack he had his own uses as a checker of the run-flow. Wassan began badly as first-change bowler but bowled more steadily thereafter.

Raman, topscorer with 96 in the Indian effort to avoid an innings defeat, was distinctly unlucky not to get his first Test

century. Kept his head down and played sensibly. The only black spot on his copybook during his long vigil was the one that caused his downfall: he had his sights trained on the largely untenanted

Morrison was the one who broke India's will to fight, he forced India to follow on.

terraces when he lashed out at Morrison and only succeeded in giving a catch to Andrew Jones, running back from square leg.

Raman's has been a remarkable career. Since making his debut against the West Indies in Madras in 1987-88 he had played only two more (against the West Indies in the West Indies and against New Zealand at home). Even the Test he played in the West Indies was on second thoughts, as it were, after Krishnamachari Srikanth was laid low by an Ian Bishop delivery and had to be sent home. On the recent tour of Pakistan by the Indian team he did not get a look in. His innings of 96 therefore ought to seal his place for at least the remaining two Tests in New Zealand. Ironically, he will also remember the first Test for his shoddy fielding. At least three catches went as the gangling left-handed batsman from Tamil Nadu let his concentration in the gully-slips arc waver.

Ashok Kamath,
Christchurch

PATRICK EAGAR



MISTER NO-CONTROVERSY!

A PROFILE OF JOHN WRIGHT BY ASHOK KAMATH

The only man in the world who has been named Wisden Cricketer of the Year twice is John Geoffrey Wright. The 35-year-old Hampshire batsman has been named Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1977 and 1978. He is also a former England Test captain and a member of the England cricket team.

John has a very calm and collected manner. He is a very quiet man who does not like to draw attention to himself. He is a very hard worker and is always looking for ways to improve himself. He is a very dedicated player and is always looking for ways to help his team. He is a very good leader and is always looking for ways to help his team.

As a player, he is a very good batsman and is always looking for ways to improve himself. He is a very good leader and is always looking for ways to help his team. He is a very good batsman and is always looking for ways to improve himself.



recently, his stance at the crease made purists cringe: baseball-batter-like, he never grounded his bat. But late last year's trip to Australia for a one-Test match series changed it all.

"I stood that (upright) way only because of my back problem and the recent change has proved much more comfortable," Wright said after he had got to his highest score in Test cricket. "The hardest thing was to change the stance after seven or eight years. It was a psychological barrier really, to have the conviction to say 'Come on, let's go down and start and see if it works.' It worked."

After dilly-dallying during a net practice session after drawing the Test against Australia in Perth, he plunged into his current, more orthodox, stance. Innings of 71 and 90 in his first two Shell Trophy games convinced Wright that his winter fitness programme to test the bad back had helped. His test in the first Test only reinforced this belief.

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New Delhi
Telephone 6830785

I want to sell a carromboard in excellent condition (2½ years old). The striker and the 'men' are also intact.

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Calcutta 700 019

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Model—Wilson T-2000.
Tension—50-65 lbs.
String pattern—14 main/18 cross with original Wilson guts.
NIKHIL ROY CHOWDHURY
57/16 Ballygunge Circular Road,
Calcutta 700 019
Telephone 753385

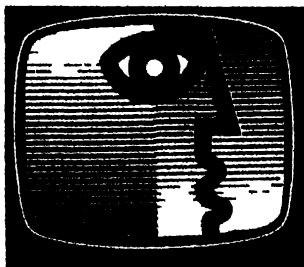
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C/O Z Fidahusain
19 Ganesh Chandra Chandra Avenue,
Calcutta 700 013

Have you got a sporting item at home that you would want to get rid of? Or something that you would want to buy, but don't know where to look?

Why not advertise in this column? Write to 'Auction House', Sportsworld, 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700 001. The service is absolutely free.

MEDIAWATCH



I NOTICED two errors by TV commentators during the Nehru Cup final recently. The English commentator Prasennjit Dutta referred to the Olimpia team from Paraguay as the Paraguayan team from Olimpia. The Hindi commentator Kukoo Walia went one better, he referred to the Olimpia side as 'Paraguay'!

DEVVRANJAN CHATTERJEE
Calcutta.

ON the English TV news, the announcer mentioned that Hadlee's 400th Test wicket was celebrated by playing the Frank Sinatra classic 'My Way'. A fitting commemoration
ABHIJIT SAMANTA,
Haldia.

IT'S probably only a coincidence but the third day's Christchurch Test highlights on TV showed Tendulkar

wearing a half-sleeved sweater each time he went out to bat. He was out in the course of a single playing day twice. Compare this with his wearing only a half-sleeved shirt in Pakistan while the fielders wore two sweaters. Does the sweater explain in its own way why Tendulkar was out for only 0 and 23 in Christchurch, while he had been so successful in Pakistan?
RAHUL MISRA,
Sambelpur.

SOMETHING odd that I noticed was how the Indian weightlifters standing on the victory podium at the Commonwealth Games did not even whisper (forget sing) the national anthem when it was played. Compare this with the Australian swimmers (gold, silver or bronze) who sang or at least moved their lips when their anthem was being played. Someone suggested in jest that since they were not used to winning medals they were not used to singing national anthems either! The other oddity was the Indian contingent wearing coats and ties for the opening ceremony. Where has all the national pride in wearing the bandh-galla and trousers or the ethnic kurta-pyjama

gone?
M.A. RADHAKRISHNA,
Bangalore

RICHARD HADLEE'S neice walked into the ground to present him with 400 roses after he had got to the landmark
SNEHAL BHATAWDEKAR,
Pune.

MARTIN CROWE'S amazing catch of V Raju during the first Test had the commentator remarking that 'he showed the reflexes of Commonwealth Games badminton player'
R.S. RAJU,
Madras.

THE gesture by Bishen Bedi and A W Kanmadikar to walk out and congratulate Hadlee was commendable. It is gestures like these that go to improve relations between teams during a tough series.
RAJEEV SHARMA,
New Delhi.

During the Benson and Hedges one-dayer between West Indies and Australia which we picked up from Rupavahini (Sri Lanka TV), Curtley Ambrose's wide delivery ended up at point!
M. JANAKIRAMAN,
Mayiladuthurai

When Bedi was interviewed on New Zealand TV and referred to as the Indian coach, he immediately interrupted to say that he was only the 'Indian Cricket Manager'. Wonder what the difference is between the two
PARTHA SEN,
Calcutta.



FOCUS

The barriers
between East
and West
crumble with
the Berlin
Wall, leaving
the Soviet Bloc
sporting stars
at the mercy of
market
economics

REEDOM is
Katarina Witt
skating in a
Pepsi
advertisement
Sergei Bubka

endorsing Wheaties, the
breakfast of champions,
and Gheorghe Hagı
promoting the
revolutionary taste of
Chicken McNuggets

In the brave new world
of Eastern Europe,
anything is possible
Athletes are confronted
by the challenge,
unthinkable a matter of
months ago, of building
an independent life from
the wreckage of
Bucharest and the
Berlin Wall

The political
earthquake that shook
the Soviet Bloc to its core
shattered a structure
that sustained a
sporting elite whose
medals were the
cheapest method of
forging a national
identity Suddenly,
heroes of Socialist sport
are at the mercy of
market economics

To
financially-embarrassed
administrators,
struggling to come to

THE POINT OF

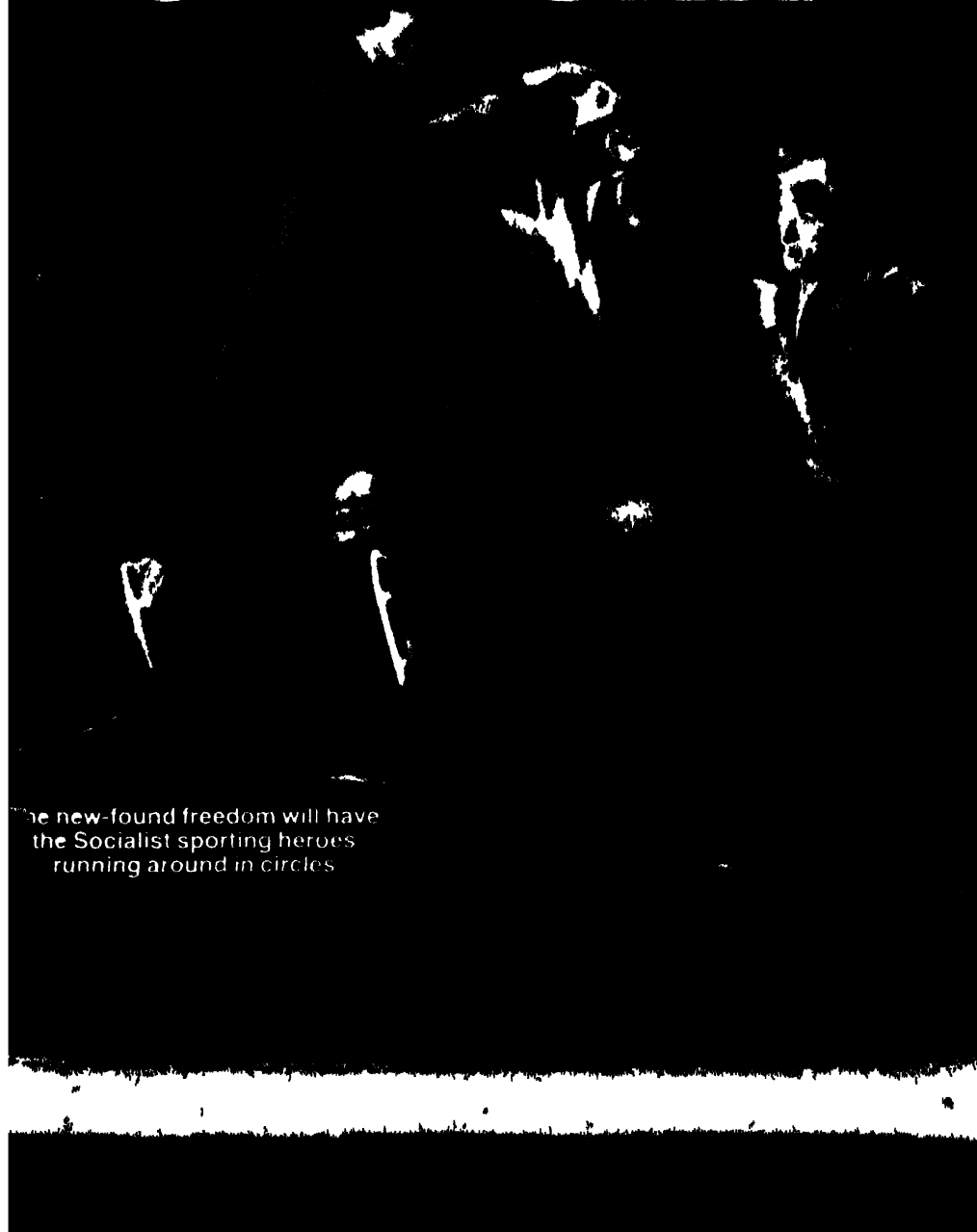


One wonders whether the
hunger will subside. Sport is
no longer a rare passport to
supposed lands of milk and
honey

terms with
commercialism, they are
sources of hard
currency, to Western
entrepreneurs they
represent novelty value

Defection has been
decreed a waste of
resources

NO RETURN



The new-found freedom will have the Socialist sporting heroes running around in circles

Administrators, recognising the inevitability of an exodus to the West, are attempting to encourage restless stars to leave through official channels

More will follow the

The most successful sporting nation on earth is selling its aura of invincibility

example of Hagi, the soccer player put up for sale by the Romanian Government, and Witt, who was in Spain shooting her £3 million film *Carmen on Ice* when the Wall began to crumble

On that day, November 10, 1989, Kristin Otto, who won six swimming gold medals for East Germany in Seoul, wrote in her diary "Everybody wants to seize this moment because all have been waiting for it for so very long"

Since sport magnifies the experiences of everyday life, we should not be surprised it has proved to be cathartic. Corruption has been exposed, long-restrained jealousies aired. Caught in the hurricane of history, athletes have sheltered as best they can.

"There are so many things that are wrong in our country," reflects Wolfgang Hoppe, the East German double Olympic champion who has dominated bobsledding for a decade. "People think I have special privileges because I have a Trabant and a Lada and can compete in the West. If the public knew what worthwhile projects are financed by the money we bring home from performances, people wouldn't be so critical of sportsmen."

Otto, whose Peugeot car and three-bedroom apartment in Leipzig are the rewards of sporting excellence, stresses "We cannot do without help from other countries. Our situation now calls for us to put everything in proper order."

But in so doing, East Germany risks sabotaging the system which has produced 572 Olympic medallists since 1956, from a population almost 7 per cent that of the United States

The most successful sporting nation on earth is selling its aura of invincibility. Its application of science in sport, the assessment process that spans child and coach, now has a retail value that cannot be ignored

With travel restrictions eased, one wonders whether the hunger will subside. Sport is no longer a rare passport to supposed lands of milk and honey

One of my enduring memories of sport behind the Iron Curtain is of a shaven-headed boy, aged no more than eight. He was in a warehouse in East Berlin that acted as a gym, pounding a fraying punchbag. He wore a grubby white vest, baggy blue shorts, and an intense look that radiated the knowledge that sport represented a way out.

We did not suspect it at the time, but he was born into a fortunate generation. As Ulf Timmerman, the East German Olympic champion who holds the world shot put record, said "Everything is now possible. It is an amazing fact but we are now allowed to travel without official permission or supervision. Until now, even official team trips have been cut as short as possible."

Certain Olympic sports unfashionable to Western eyes, will

The East Bloc has always dominated figure skating and people like Dmitri Gromov (pictured here) will have a wide choice

JOHN WHELEY



undoubtedly suffer from the upheaval. Soccer is also likely to be a casualty of the politics of envy.

Eastern European leagues, such as those in Hungary, Poland and, increasingly, the Soviet Union, which have been stripped of outstanding homegrown talent, are pallid imitations of Western counterparts.

Uwe Ampel, the East German cyclist who has just become professional and is regarded as a legitimate *Tour de France* contender, is relieved to have escaped what he depicts as a sour, bureaucratic, system riddled with self-interest.

He collected a new car each of the three times he won the Peace Race, a long-distance event taking in Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland. But on his return home he was ordered to give it to a party apparatchik.

There is, however, still a notable loyalty to the system and, in East Berlin, surprising resistance to the notion of representing a unified Germany. Timmerman, who intends to enter more international events this summer, is not alone in promising "I won't leave my home. I could take more money in the West, perhaps drive a Mercedes instead of a Wartburg. But there is so much here: education, jobs for athletes, assurance that our social cares are taken care of."

State control of an athlete's income has, indirectly, cost

Czechoslovakia Ivan Lendl and Martina

Navratilova It will continue to push leading Soviet tennis players into conflict with the authorities

It is a recurring problem which crosses sporting boundaries. Despite his touching faith in the principles of Socialist sport, Timmerman is aware that, as an Olympic champion, he commands an appearance fee in the region of £ 3,000

"Sponsors have paid appearance money and prize money for GDR athletes in the past, but all of it went straight to the sports federation," he admits, "The individual got none of it. Now I think there will be some money for Ulf, and others. There will be no selling of our athletes below the price paid for other countries' athletes."

However, it remains unlikely that Eastern Bloc athletes will be allowed to keep more than a third of their earnings. In some cases they will be fortunate to escape with a basic 10 per cent. Compensation comes in promises from administrators who appear to have taken their cue from Mikhail Gorbachev. Klaus Eichler, one of East Germany's most influential sports officials, concedes: "We have been too secret, we have hidden too much."

The point of no return has been reached. Eastern European sport is exposed to the world, warts and all. Its figureheads are symbols of a more hopeful world they are worth their weight in gold, Olympic or otherwise.

Michael Calvin

Courtesy: The Daily Telegraph



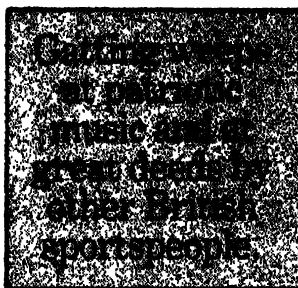
Sergei Bubka endorses Wheaties when not vaulting to new heights while **Katarina Witt** (inset) skates for Pepsi

THIS is by nature of an obituary: not for a person but for a Test career cut off in its prime. For in effect that is what will have happened once Mike Gatting plonks his bulk into a seat on a South African Airways plane

In opting to tour South Africa this winter and next, he and his colleagues will rule themselves out of Test cricket until the spring of 1998.

In June this year Gatting will be 33, no age for a quality batsman. But 41? That is a different matter. It is a pound to a pickle sandwich that the best Middlesex batsman since Compton will never again wear the lions and crown of England.

For one who has followed and admired his career since he rolled noisily into the Middlesex dressing



bludgeons rather than the wand—although he can be surprisingly delicate at times. When the Test bio-rhythms were right he could be devastating, as for instance in Faisalabad when for little more than an hour he harnessed a blazing temper to score 79 breathtakingly brutal runs to reduce the Pakistani attack to ineptness after others had struggled.

It took him 52 goes to make a century for his country—from Karachi in 1978 to Bombay in 1984. The longer he went without that hundred, the harder



PATRIOT. BUT

MIKE GATTING

Mike Selvey sympathises with his

room to begin his career in 1975, it is desperately sad. For there has been no one, in my experience, who has valued playing for his country more. He weeps at patriotic music and at great deeds by other British sportspeople. He is a very proud man.

He is also a pretty good player, a high-quality butcher who deals in biffs and

mentally it was to achieve. When he finally carved the runs through extra cover that took him to three figures, it was like a casting off of chains.

Even the English press contingent recognised it for what it was, and in an unprecedented gesture rose and applauded. The irony of that will not be lost on him today.

Rarely has he stinted since.

But the past couple of years have been painful to watch, as the cheerful, beaming barrel of a lad has become a sad greybeard, old and world weary before his time. The pinnacle of his career had come when, as captain, he marched his troops magnificently round Australia, cleaning up trophies

wherever they went. Gatting later donned his top hat and was gonged.

His downfall was swift and systematic. Within the Australian Triumph had been the first evidence of the breakdown of discipline within the England camp, and it was to cost them dear. Not only did the team performances become poor, but petulance was rife—led,



Getting allowed himself to be dragged into another game beyond his scope.

he has maintained that he did not really want the South African trip that England would always be more important

It would be good to think that in years to

Getting will be remembered, according to Mike Selvey, "for the dismissive power of his strokeplay; for the wide-brimmed old sunhat and his waltzing yards down the pitch as befits the holder of a bronze medal from the Neasden Ritz dance hall..."

seamer who has strayed just a fraction off line. Even, God help us, for the reverse sweep

Sadly, it is more likely that he will be remembered as a rebel, a pawn, as someone who confessed to not knowing much about apartheid when he did not really mean that. He allowed himself to be dragged into another game beyond his scope

We did not even have the satisfaction of a fitting end to his Test career. Instead, on his home ground of Lord's last summer he poked his pad tentatively down the pitch to Terry Alderman, raised his bat aloft and departed, for the umpteenth time leg before without offering a shot. His team-mates maintained that he did it so often that, like British heavyweight boxers selling advertising space on the soles of their boots, he should have his bat stickers put on upside

CHER. REBEL.

league and former England captain

it has to be said by the captain

Later, in Faisalabad following that defiant innings and in one of the most notorious sporting incidents of the decade, he confronted the umpire Shakoor Rana when he should not have done so, as he knows and admits

Getting's stand, and his virtual condoning, through his own

actions of the team's behaviour on the tour of New Zealand which followed, might justifiably have cost him his job, and had it done so he might, curiously, have not been doing what he is today

A broken thumb, loss of form, and the death of his much-loved mother-in-law added to the troubles last summer, yet to the last

come it will be for his cricket that Getting is remembered for the dismissive power of his stroke play for the wide-brimmed old sunhat and his waltzing yards down the pitch—as befits the holder of a bronze medal from the Neasden Ritz dance hall—to smack some hapless spinner over longoff, or winding up to crunch square a

down. But that innings was the final straw. He never played for England again

Getting, who by the spring of next year will be a reported £200,000 richer, does not need and would certainly never seek or expect my sympathy, but that is exactly what he has today

Courtesy The Daily Telegraph

'I dislike apartheid—it is a nasty system'

REBEL tour skipper Mike Gatting had a message for the England cricketers who packed their bags to leave for the West Indies.

"Hopefully, I'll play for England again one day," he said. "That's what I want to do—what I've always wanted to do."

"I've fond and proud memories of captaining England," he said. "I just hope there are some more left."

"I don't feel I'm over the hill," he said. "I don't think Chris Broad, Neil Foster or Paul Jarvis do either. There are eight or nine players here who stood a chance of being in the West Indies this winter."

Disappointment, disillusionment and disappointment with the Test and County Cricket Board made it easier for South African cricket supremo Ali Bacher to recruit such talented tourists. Gatting, denied the England captaincy last year when Ossie Wheatley vetoed his appointment, is one of many embittered men.

Bacher claims he could have signed three teams from England.

"There will be decisions made in the future which will not



Gatting: "They're going to try to shoot us..."

necessarily benefit England," said Gatting.

"People keep asking me, 'What about English cricket?' Well, I'd like to see Englishmen playing for England."

England captain in 23 of his 68 Test appearances, Gatting suggested: "Perhaps one qualifying standard could be that to play for England you must have been educated in England."

Gatting was spotted across his king-sized bed in his suite in the most luxurious hotel in town.

Only the presence of a plain clothes

security man patrolling the corridor outside tells you that this is no ordinary tour.

Gatting is burdened with more than captaining a cricket team. The tourists are solely identified with him, the anti-apartheid protesters aim their demonstrations at him, and it is his name that is plastered on their placards.

"If that's the only thing I have to cope with that suits me fine," he said.

"I won't respond to those who say we came only for money. Nor do I think the players care too much about sticking up two

fingers to the Establishment."

Why, then, did they come?

Gatting argued: "We are no different to bank managers, racing drivers or golfers who come over here. I dislike apartheid—it is a nasty system—but it is only the politicians who will be able to sort it out."

"I don't want to talk with those who oppose our presence. I've heard their argument. They don't want to see things."

"They're going to try to shoot us, to demonstrate, to run up and down corridors... phone us in the middle of the night."

"I can't do anything about that, I'm here to play cricket. But whether the other side like it or not, the South African Cricket Union has non-racial sport. They have tried to break down apartheid."

"Meanwhile, we'd like to send Goochie our best wishes. But if you've got 10 guys playing badly, you can't perform miracles. That's what people tend to forget. Obviously, some captains get more out of players than others."

Michael Foster
London

colours: 100/100/100



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CARRYING on with the three-movement combinations from *kumite-dachi*, this week let's discuss two straight punches followed by a *somani-jodan-yokogiri* or a side kick that is delivered to the front.

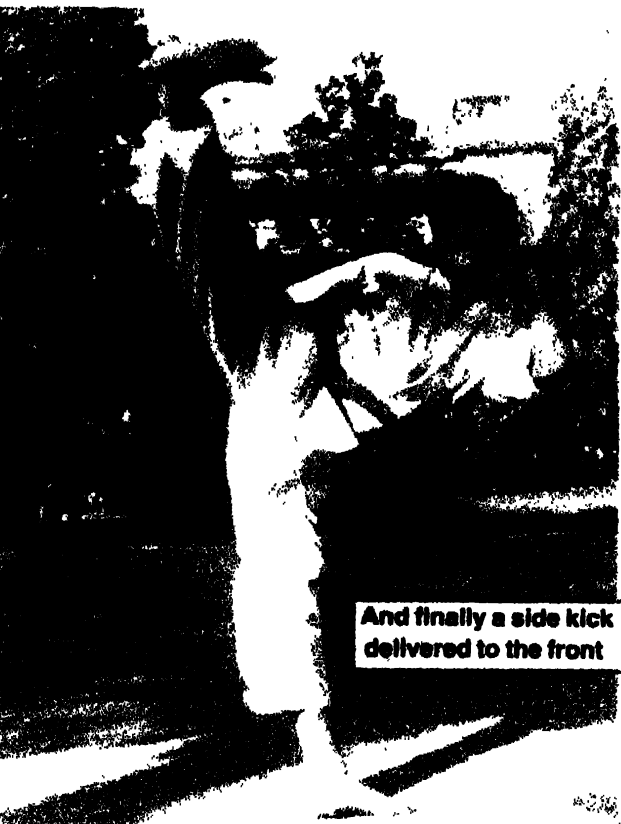
Standing in *kumite-dachi*, throw a straight punch with the left hand. Flick the hand back to guard the face even as you follow it up with a straight punch

with the right hand. Using the forward momentum created by the second punch, swivel your body so that you are side-on to your opponent and deliver a side kick to the chin region.

As explained earlier, the first punch should stop an onrushing opponent, the second should push him back and create space and the kick should drop him.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



And finally a side kick delivered to the front



First, a straight punch with the left



Next another straight punch, this time with the right

THE formative years, they say, are the problematic years. If

that be true then there must be many problems on the present women's pro tennis circuit.

While their contemporaries hang out with guys at the disco, there are dozens of young girls growing up wielding their rackets around the globe. But the tennis itself is the less problematic part of these teenage lives.

The stress, pressures and tensions of the

Seles: "I'm just going to stay the same little old me."

LOCKER R

THE PROBLEMS YOUNG WOMEN TENNIS PLAYERS FACE

professional game add on years to young tennis players. And success. Ah, that too is a great catalyst of ultimate failure.

Asked if success is likely to change her, Monica Seles, the 15-year-old Yugoslav tennis prodigy, replied: "No, I'm just going to stay the same little old me." This may not be easy in a profession where lavish rewards are won by single-minded dedication, often at the expense of wholesome companionship during formative years.

Valda Lake, a moderately talented British player aged 21 and ranked 243 in the world, underlined one of the problems recently in

"Steffi doesn't speak to me. She doesn't talk to anybody really": Martina about Steffi



"It seems difficult to start a conversation with her, I don't know why": Steffi about Martina

AP/WIDE WORLD

OOOM POLITICS

THEIR FORMATIVE YEARS

announcing that she was going to leave the sport and study art. She said she found other competitors on the women's circuit "shallow, with closed minds", elaborating: "No one even chats to each other. The money makes playing on the circuit extremely difficult. It is so ruthless. Everyone is trying so hard to be professional they are not willing to be normal."

Those who do have expressed similar sentiments. Martina Navratilova, the eight-times Wimbledon champion, whose personal life has been well documented, finds Steffi Graf's aloofness irritating after having established a keen rivalry and rapport with

Chris Evert down the years.

"I don't really speak to her that much; rather, she doesn't speak to me," Navratilova said after losing to the 20-year-old West German in the final of the United States Open last September. "She doesn't talk to anybody really." Graf said the lack of communication was mutual: "It seems difficult to start a conversation with her, I don't know why."

Friendship is difficult when the player you exchanged pleasantries with yesterday is now on the other side of the net, determined to steal your thunder, and you hers, knowing that the cycle will continue on courts around the globe.

"To one degree or another, every tennis star needs an alterego," is the opinion of Ted Tinling, guru and director of international liaison for the women's tour. "Once you get to the top level all your previous colleagues turn against you, and finally, if you're really good, they all gang up against you so that you're squeezed upwards towards the top of the pyramid until you're totally alone. All the top stars I've known have been in that position. They've always had someone from the outside who can provide them with the balancing factor of life."

"Burn-out" is the popular term for young tennis players who fail

to fulfil their potential, and for years the names Tracy Austin and Andrea Jaeger have been synonymous with early retirement caused by injuries and stress. Jennifer Capriati has been told cautionary tales about Austin and Jaeger so often that she could be forgiven for thinking they are her half-sisters.

There is a school of thought which feels that the era of young girl champions is at an end. That Jennifer Capriati is perhaps the last of the teenagers to make it to the senior tour. What befalls the present young women will be chronicled with great interest.

Brain Andrews

BRAZIL



Manager Sebastiao Lazaroni: No one wanted the job

have succeeded in any other attacking or defensive formation for this reason.

The Copa America was used by him as a testing ground for Italia 1990. Initially, Brazil beat Venezuela 3-1, and

When Brazilian football is vibrant, it is because of the African blood in its midst. When it is vicious, it is because of Portuguese blood. And when it is submissive (which it rarely is), it is because of 'Indian' blood. But none of the three, either singly or in combination has got Brazil the World Cup in the last 30 years.

For two decades, the Brazilians have been outdone by the West Germans, the French and the Argentines. Yet the Brazilians were no pushovers in either the World Cups, or in any major competition in this period. Flashes of brilliance and hard luck stories have characterised their frustrations.

The yellow and blue brigade is back for the 14th time. And with a vengeance. With an all-powerful blend of European tactical knowledge, added to innate Brazilian pyrotechnics. Sending frightful rumblings across the football

realm. To their opponents in Italy? Behind this phenomenon is Sebastiao Lazaroni, a non-entity in Brazil till he got them the 1989 Copa America championship.

At 39, he's going strong after introducing a five-man midfield for the Copa America and World Cup qualifying games. Copying his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Bilardo with great success. A long time ago he was a moderate goalkeeper

and studied sports coaching while a navy officer. He got the job simply because no one else was interested in handling such a hot responsibility.

As a manager, he had won a hat-trick of the Rio de Janeiro state championship—with Flamengo in 1986, and Vasco da Gama in 1987 and 1988. Nothing else.

But he is a very lucky man. He had some of the most gifted players in the world available. Had he not chosen a 5-man midfield, he would still



The core of the Brazilian team:
Standing from left: Maestri, Taffarel, Cruz, Jorginho, Aladar and Alvaro.
Sitting from left: team Physio, Muller, Careca, Dunga, Siles and Ricardo, Bebeto is missing.

followed with two draws against Peru and Colombia. Next, not more than 8000 booted the crowd and threatened them. But in the next dramatic match, the fans gradually changed to cheer... and score! They beat Paraguay 3-0, with the devastating Bebeto scoring both. In the final rounds the Brazilians faced Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. And topped the table with six points—winning all three games deservedly. After 40 years, Brazil were the South American champs again. And it couldn't have come at a better time.

Two years back, after the disastrous 1987 Copa America, where

they were humiliated, 0-4 by Chile, it was claimed that Brazil had no replacements for Socrates, Falcao, Zico and Juninho. This squad is giving him vibrant career. Based on a 1-3-5-2 formation which can be moulded according to the situation, Lasaroni has chosen a 28-year old goalkeeper in Taffarel. In a land where goalkeepers are considered unglaucous, Taffarel is not world class, but the best in Brazil.

Leading the attack is Careca, who needs no introduction. In devastating support are Bebeto, a brilliant 26-year old striker, and Romario, the highest scorer of the Seoul Olympiad with 7 goals,



now with PSV Eindhoven of Holland. This trio is deadly on the counter-attack. And can score from halfchances. Bebeto finished as the top scorer of the 1989 Copa America with 6 goals.

Bebeto is 5 feet six inches in height and weighs a mere 80 kilograms. An Italian reporter predicts, "If he goes to Italy they'd break his legs in two minutes." May be. But he's the hottest property in Brazil now. He lives with his wife and six brothers and six sisters. Does not smoke or drink. His mini-zoo has 7 cats, 2 dogs, turtles, parrots and birds and his real name is Jose Roberto Gama de Oliveira.

He was voted the third-best player of the year in 1989 by World Soccer, after Gullit and Marco Van Basten of Holland.

On the field, he's quick thinking, very fast, and squeezes into outside the penalty area to score with both head and feet.

Ruling Brazil's midfield is Carlos Dunga, also 26. He is a born midfield leader, in the European mould. Does not waste a ball, Has vision and is quick

thinking. And foremost, is a team player. He has more than able support from Alemao Valdo n Silas. Dunga is with Fiorentina, Italy while Valdo entertains Benfica of Portugal. Both are in good form, as demonstrated in the defeat of Italy, at Bologna in December 1989. There, Dunga, Silas and Alemao dominated the Italian midfield trio of Giannini, De Napoli and Berti. Muller and Giovanni, add to the rich midfield assortment.

Playing Jose Carlos Moser as libero, a 30 year old foreign-based player, has given solidity to the defence, with able support from Julio Cesar and Branco of the 1986 squad. Jorginho now with Bayer Leverkusen and West Germany, and Bancao of Porto, Portugal, are menacing on the counter attack too.

The yellow and blue brigade are menacing. But the question is will they retain this form after four months? Or, have they been overrated once again?"

Italia 1990 will provide us the answer. *Palladio Ministry*



CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH ALI

**Muhammed Ali
descended on
Madras recently
Rahul
Chandawarkar
managed an
exclusive
interview
with
the Champ**

SPORTSWORLD: Which other sport did you play as a young boy and when did you start boxing?

MUHAMMED ALI I did not play any other sport only boxing I was 12-years-old when somebody stole my bicycle The man who did so was bigger and stronger than me The policeman I reported the theft to advised me to join a gym and learn boxing so that I could prevent such thefts in future I decided to learn boxing as a result of this

How significant was your gold medal win at the Tokyo Olympics?

I was only 18 years old and I wasn't sure whether I would win

the gold But I believed in it It was a great feeling to win as I was suddenly the best in the world and it was my first championship win You threw your medal into the river and later in life converted to Islam. Was all this a part of feeling victimised because of your colour?

As a Christian I was disillusioned and confused In Islam you have only one God Islam has given me a lot of peace and stability (with a cheeky grin on his face) I used to chase a lot of women in my younger days I don't do so anymore Islam has made me more God conscious and humble Why were you so stubborn about

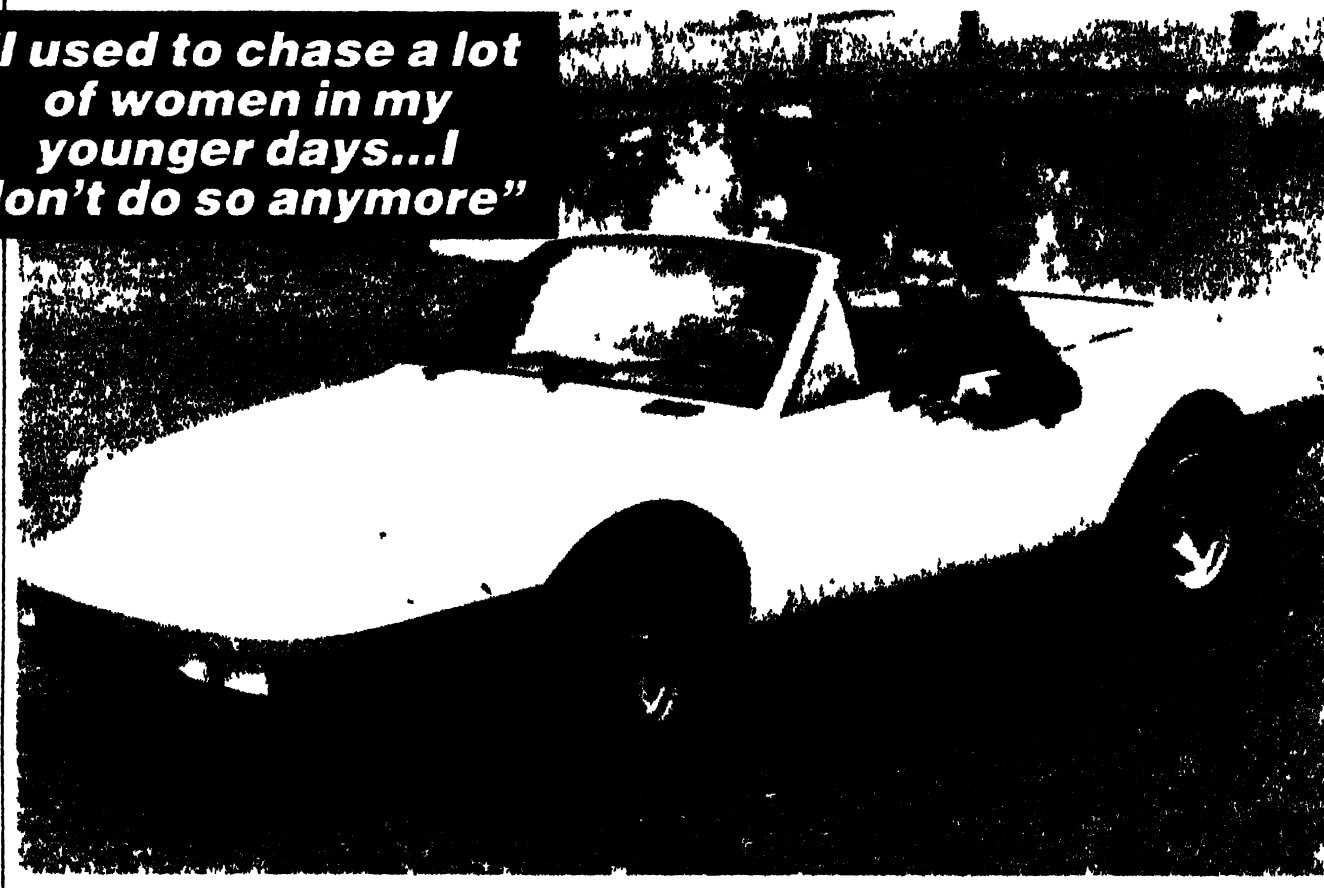
joining the US army thereby sacrificing your title and some of your best years as a boxer?

I did not join the war because the Holy Koran does not believe in war We had no business being in Vietnam It was a useless battle We were absolutely wrong

What made you go after the title time after time?

I always wanted the people of the

"I used to chase a lot of women in my younger days...I don't do so anymore"



INTER



**"A man stole my
bicycle...so I took up
boxing to prevent
such thefts in future"**



**"Tyson is still a kid
...Let him remain
champion for
another ten years
then you can pro-
ceed to rank him"**

world to recognise the fact that I was the best

If you were to name your toughest opponent, who would it be?

Joe Frazier He had a very hard punch and he always kept coming at you He never seemed to get tired

And your best fight?

George Foreman at Zaire He was in great form that year having knocked out Frazier in just two rounds I beat him in a long duel I know you've been asked this a hundred times but, what is your view of Mike Tyson?

Mike is a powerful fighter But how many years has he been fighting? Three years four years he is still a kid It took me 25 years of fighting to gain recognition Let Tyson remain

champion for another ten years then you can proceed to rank him **Hypothetically, if you had ever fought Tyson how would you deal with him?** I would have kept him at a distance I would pop him then move and dance, keeping him off balance I would keep him guessing all the time This is the

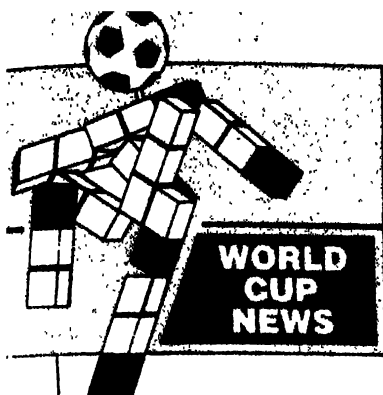
**"We had no business
being in Vietnam. It
was a useless battle.
We were absolutely
wrong"**

only way to counter his brute force He will remain champion for a long time if they don't fight him this way

You have very often said that the world today is in turmoil and constant tension What do you think people should do to achieve peace and brotherhood?

The world will continue to have trouble Allah made the world and all the people He runs the world by His law If man continues to disobey God's law how can there be peace on earth

While driving a car there are certain rules and regulations one has to follow If we don't we will crash Similarly, if we don't follow God's rules we cannot live peacefully ■



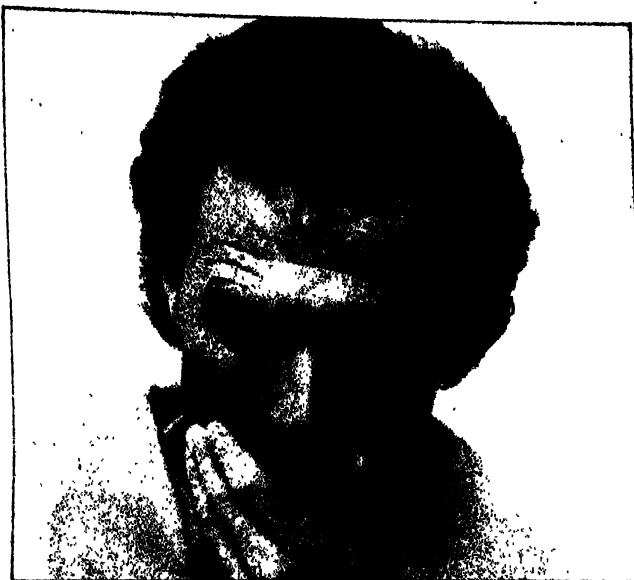
Mario Zagalo Sacked

THE United Arab Emirates have sacked their World Cup qualifying team manager recently! The reason? Player dissatisfaction for one. Conceit for another. On his recent tours abroad, he said that without his services, the UAE would never have become a soccer power even in West Asia. But what got the Emirs and the federation fed up was his criticism of their



lifestyles. He called them barbaric.

His fourth World Cup dream (twice as a player for Brazil in 1958 and 1962, and twice as a manager—for Brazil in 1970 and, the UAE in 1990, Italia) has ended abruptly. And that may also herald UAE's sudden death in Italia!



Italia 1990: the Kaiser's last challenge

Beckenbauer On Way Out

FOR the "Kaiser" who is the Marketing Executive Manager with the DFB (German league), Italia 1990 will be his last challenge. Franz Beckenbauer was showing signs of tiring of the job after 1986. The new manager will be ex-teammate, Bertie Vogts, who has all the necessary job qualifications (unlike the 'kaiser' who lacks them), and presently manages the Under-21 team.

Careca Breaks His Right Foot

NAPOLI's Brazilian striker broke a bone in his right foot, when he collided with Brazilian teammate Alemao during training. He's going to be out for a month at least. With fatigue and leg weariness adding to the pain, Napoli and Brazil will have to watch out!

Tony Meola's British Connection

THE American squad for the World Cup has started training at La Jolla, California. Without Tony Meola at goal and striker John Harkes, both of whom are on trial with Sheffield Wednesday of England.

Americans are wondering if his assurance of coming home after the World Cup 1990, was after all bogus.



Bilardo: needs Valdano desperately

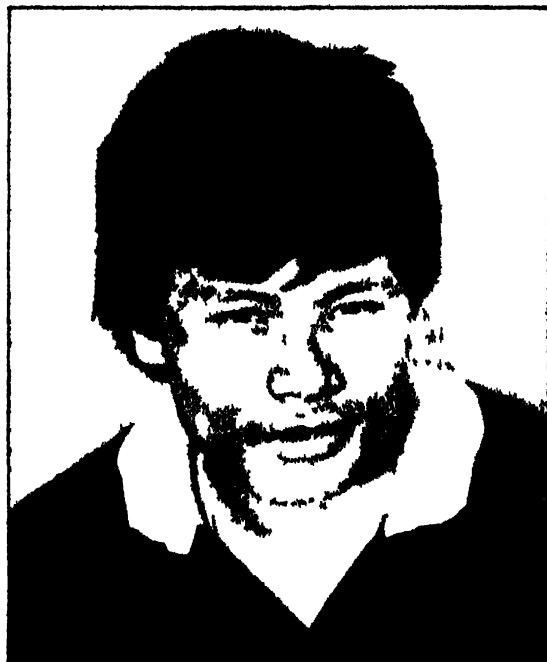
Jorge Valdano Making A Comeback

THE Argentine at 34 years, is attempting a comeback after an attack of hepatitis two years ago forced his retirement.

He's needed for Bilardo's World Cup

squad in Italy. He played for the national B team which lost 0-2 to Monaco recently. Ironically, the 'man of the match' was Ramon Diaz, the Argentine whom Bilardo desperately wants. Even if Valdano does not make the 22, he will help Bilardo for the Italian adventure.

Palleb Muhury



THOIBA SINGH

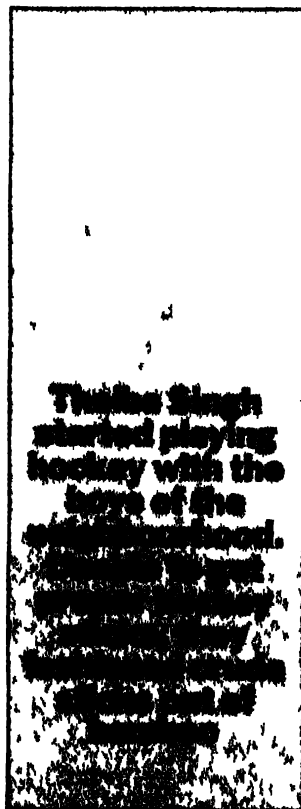
SHORT... SWIFT... DEADLY

BORN in Imphal, Manipur Thoiba Singh started playing hockey with the boys of the neighbourhood. Unable to get proper hockey sticks, they fashioned crude sticks out of bamboo bent at one end. It was not till 1977 when he represented Singjamei Boys High School, that he got to use a proper hockey stick.

"That same year, Thoiba recalls, "a senior player of my area Tongbram Ibohal Singh, taught me the finer points of the game. He had also advised me to play left-out because of my speed and stamina."

Within a year of his taking to hockey seriously, Thoiba represented the State in the Junior Nationals at Madurai in 1978. The following year, though still a junior, he was promoted to the senior team and he continued to represent his State in both teams till 1983.

The big break came in '83, when he was selected to play for India in a tour of Kenya. Scoring nine goals in as many matches (four goals against the



Thoiba Singh started playing hockey with the boys of the neighbourhood. Unable to get proper hockey sticks, they fashioned crude sticks out of bamboo bent at one end. It was not till 1977 when he represented Singjamei Boys High School, that he got to use a proper hockey stick.



Kenyan senior squad) he was the 'best scorer' of the tour. Taking into consideration Thoiba's performance he was recalled to represent India in the 10-Nation Hockey Tournament in Hong Kong. He even figured in the squad that participated in the Junior World Cup qualifying tournaments in Malaysia and Vancouver in '84 and '85, respectively.

The presence of Zafar Iqbal in the Indian team for the Los Angeles Olympics in '84 saw Thoiba Singh being dropped. Thereafter, however, Thoiba has

"If a player needs to be changed, it should only be because of the lack of physical fitness... Not on the whims and fancies of the selectors," Thoiba asserted.

been a permanent member of the Indian team. In fact, he is considered to be one of the pivotal figures of Indian hockey today.

He remembers the '86 World Cup, "That was the most humiliating defeat we faced. Being held immediately after the Asian Games, some of our players had no time to recover from injuries. Even Pakistan suffered because of fatigue. No one realised that, we were criticised unnecessarily."

Though he picked up the nuances of the game from Ibohal Singh in Imphal, he says, "I picked up a lot from Zafar Iqbal. Who I think is the best left-out in the world. I used to discuss strategy with him and that has helped me to become a better player."

He also feels he has further honed his skills in the coaching camps under M. P. Ganesh, national coach. "There is more coordination among the players these days," he adds.

The 23-year-old left-out of the Indian team has a few suggestions for the improvement of the standard of Indian hockey. "Firstly, the team should not be changed around too often, this helps the players get to know each other well and there is better coordination among them on the ground. Secondly, it also takes a long time to break in new players. One inexperienced player throws the entire team out of rhythm."

Thoiba Singh (on ground) celebrates after scoring a goal.

"If a player needs to be changed, it should only be because of lack of physical fitness or a sharp decline in the standard of his game. Not on the whims and fancies of the selectors," he asserts.

Thoiba believes that the change in rules which were implemented for the first time during the Champions Trophy in Germany, '89, should help the Indian team. "Earlier on it was difficult for the Indian forwards to score because the goalkeepers were free to lie down in front of the goal post with the new rules it is comparatively easier to score."

Thoiba thinks that foreign coaches are not necessary because they are not suited to our pattern of the game. It can also adversely affect the performance of the Indian players.

"There are hardly any incentives for the players. A cricketer is paid well for every match that he plays. Not so in hockey, he feels."

Thoiba joined the Indian Airlines in '83 as a Traffic Assistant and though he played several international tournaments, he was overlooked for promotion. Disgusted with the situation, he quit. After that, he joined the Food Corporation of India as an Assistant Manager.

Regarding his future plans, he said, "I will continue to play till the Asian Games this year and if there is no decline in my performance, I will play in the next Olympics."

M. P. Nathansel



INTERVIEW

...It's part of West Indian culture

Sportsworld: As secretary of the West Indies Cricketers' Association, can you tell us about its background and what exactly the objectives are?

Jeff Dujon: The players' association has been basically designed to represent the players in their dealings with the Board. It seeks to improve the conditions of the players. For negotiating tour fees...for fixing up itineraries. Now the committee speaks for the players. The players are an organised lot now, we have one voice and there is no fragmentation.

Previously, the Board was in control of the players because they knew the players were not united. We formed this association because in terms of dealings with the Board we wanted to be on a solid platform.

When did this Association come up?

In 1988, during the Test series against Pakistan.

What exactly is the nature of your relationship with the West Indies Board? Is it cordial or bad or...

It is a well-defined relationship. This was not in the past. The Board understands what we are trying to do and they take us seriously. You know what actually prompted us? The players felt that we should have more of a say in matters pertaining to us. Because, in the final analysis, we're the people who play. They're just....

You're trying to say that since you are the breadwinner, you must have maximum say? Breadwinner? Well, if you put it that way I don't have any problems. But I suppose, it's more than that. See, if we don't play, the Board does not exist!

Says West Indian wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon, in an extensive interview with Gautam Bhattacharya



Do you have any code of conduct for your members?

No, that's in the hands of the West Indies Board. They have their own code of conduct

designed for us.

The contract which the players sign is the code which is recognised by both parties. This code is being revised in consultation with the players.

So we will shortly end up with a code of conduct acceptable by both parties. The Board has drafted a code of conduct which we will discuss. I've seen a copy of the draft but we will have to work out something that is mutually acceptable.

Our intentions must not be misunderstood. Our Association is not taking the posture of a union. It's just that the players felt we needed proper representation. The players would like to work along with the Board to create better conditions for themselves and to help in developing a better environment. At the same time the Board also must maintain a certain respect for the interests of the players.

Dujon's batting has suffered due to his wicketkeeping

Getting back to cricket, you have been the number one wicket-keeper in the West Indies for the last eight years. What is the secret of this consistency?

I suppose the main thing is that I enjoy my cricket. Test cricket especially. I enjoy playing with the people that I do. Obviously, as a professional cricketer, you set certain standards for yourself. You have to keep yourself fit in order to meet the rigours of international cricket. I do this by playing lot of squash which is excellent for wicket keepers. It improves your reflexes...your speed.

Can you tell us how you feel... I mean, standing up to speedsters day in and day out... It's probably what I am best at. It has been very hard. Because, as you know we always had four fast bowlers. In the past we had two or three. But ever since I came into the team we always played four bowlers. It's something that I have had to adapt to and I've done it pretty well too. Taking that kind of pace for a whole day is not pleasant. Your hands pay the price. But there is satisfaction too. The fact that I've managed to do it for such a long time is a great source of pride for me. It is all part of what I wanted to be...a good Test cricketer.



What kind of price have you paid in terms of the nature of injuries?

Well, I've broken my fingers many times. Strained ligaments and other injuries...you know, I've hurt ligaments which do not heal so there is always some sort of pain. And midway through a long tour it gets very uncomfortable...it's so painful. But this is something that you have to grin and bear.

Do you use any special protection, I mean extra padding or...

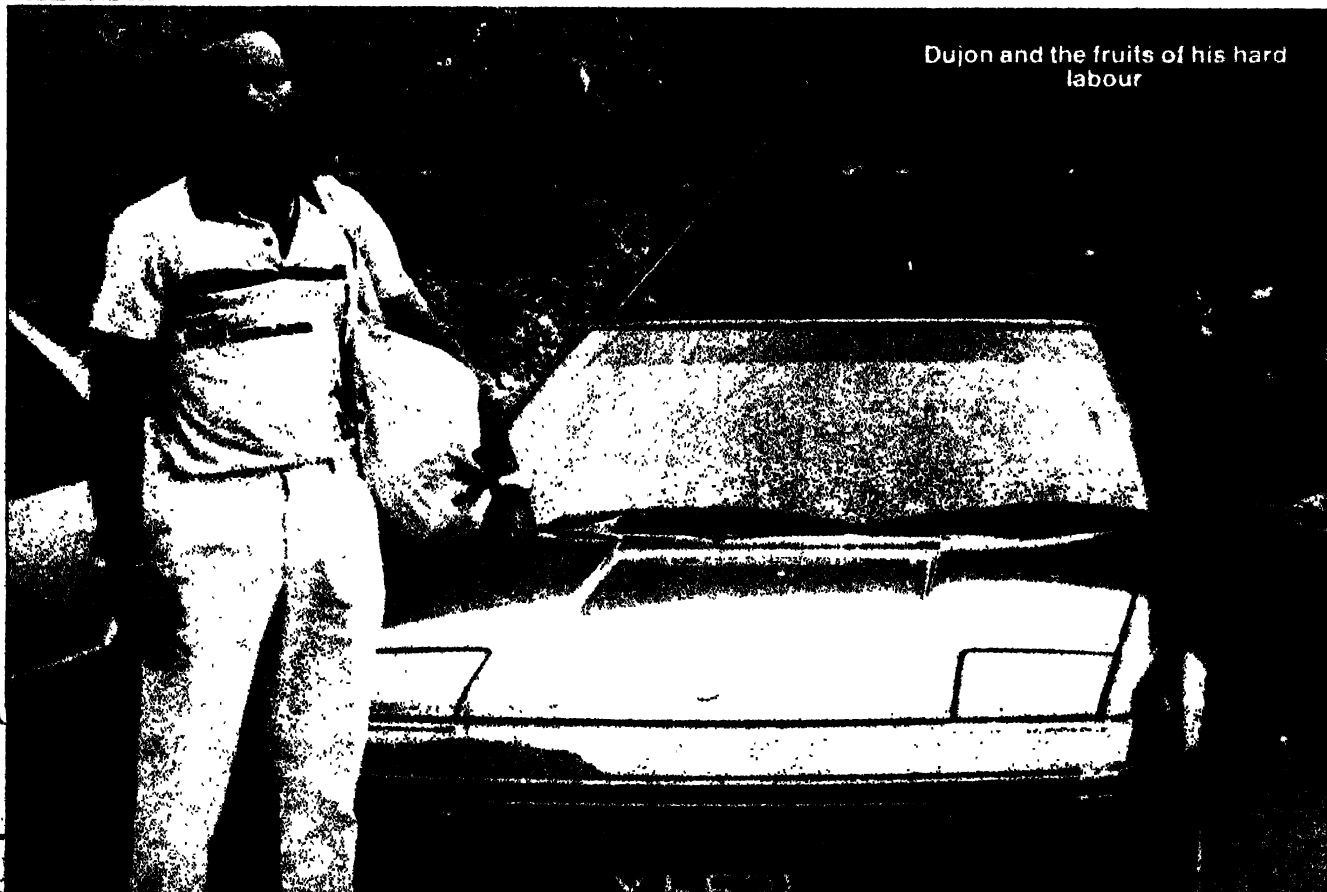
Well, I design my wicketkeeping gloves myself. The company which sponsors me allows me to design my own gloves. This has helped somewhat. Also, I design my own padding inside the gloves. The inner gloves, I mean.

In what way do these gloves differ from that of ordinary gloves?

It's not a manufactured inner gloves actually. It's just two normal pairs of inner gloves in which I have put padding. So inside the inner gloves also there is padding. I have done that in order to protect the soft spots of my hands.

There is a school of thought that believes that the present crop of West Indian pacers are not as good as their predecessors. Do you agree? I think, we still have bowlers of genuine

PRADEEP MANDHANI



Dujon and the fruits of his hard labour

pace and ability. And I also think, it is very unfair to compare our present bowlers to people like Holding or Roberts who were great in their time. The present crop are just flowering. You'll have to give them that.

No, but the fact remains that people like Courtney Walsh have already played more than 75 one dayers. You just can't say they are flowering.

Well, I don't think anyone can dispute Walsh's ability. I don't think anyone can dispute the abilities of Malcom Marshall either. And these two have been around the longest out of the present crop. The others are just starting out and they have a lot to prove. As with Holding and Roberts, it took time for them to become great. So these young fellows must be given their due. Their true ability will show over time.

You call Holding or Roberts great. Is it because of their impressive record?

Definitely, that is one consideration. Their record speaks for themselves. But apart from that there is another factor which appeals to me. Both started off as genuinely fast bowlers. However, as they grew older and lost their hip, they refined their skills. They learnt to move the ball more to use seam more. And they got good results. To me these are the hallmarks of a great bowler. We saw the same thing with Dennis Lillee. He lost his pace but not his guile. Richard Hadlee is another example.

As far as potential goes, who would you rate as the best among your present crop of fast bowlers?

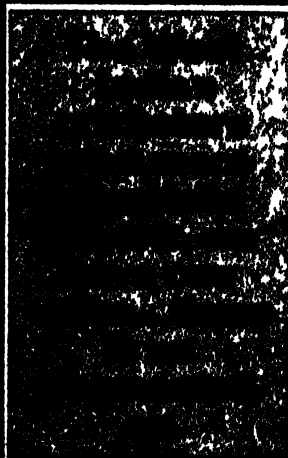
I don't want to single out anyone. Because we are a team, a family and we are all here to bring the best out of each other. So I don't think that it is important to go into that. What we should do is wait for them to develop.

How did you accustom yourself to keeping to bowlers of genuine pace?

By doing it over and over again. And obviously by keeping myself fit. Then, of course, the physio is there to help you. He formulates the fitness programme. As you must have noticed, our fast bowlers or other players do not get injured very often. They are able to play with injuries as they are physically very fit. I firmly believe that we are the fittest side in the world. And it is apparent from the fact that most of our fast bowlers are able to carry injuries and still perform.

It is commonly said, that a wicket keeper's real

COLONSPORT





PHILIP MARCHANT

**The companionship is evident.
high fives!**

test lies in standing up to an off spinner on a turning track. You have never really had this opportunity, does it bother you?

Not really. If I had to stand up to the wicket a lot more because of spin bowling, I think it would have been physically more taxing. This probably would have had a greater effect on my batting.

Nevertheless, at the same time, it would've been much more challenging?

It's very challenging to keep to four fast bowlers. I don't think there are very many wicket keepers around who could stand up to that test for a long period of time. They are not used to it. Similarly as far as keeping to spin bowling is concerned. I can't compare myself to a keeper who keeps to spin for the simple reason that I am not used to it. I came into a situation where our attack was based on pace and I had to adapt to it. And I have done that. Mind you, though it's physically less taxing it's not necessarily easier.

Do you think your batting suffered because of wicket keeping?

Yes, I think so. Because I keep wickets I bat fairly low down the order. The opportunities (for getting big scores) have not been as many as I would have liked. But I still seek a lot of satisfaction from the fact that I am part of great cricket team. You must do what's best for the team.

You have played under both Richards and Lloyd. In what way does the style of captaincy differ?

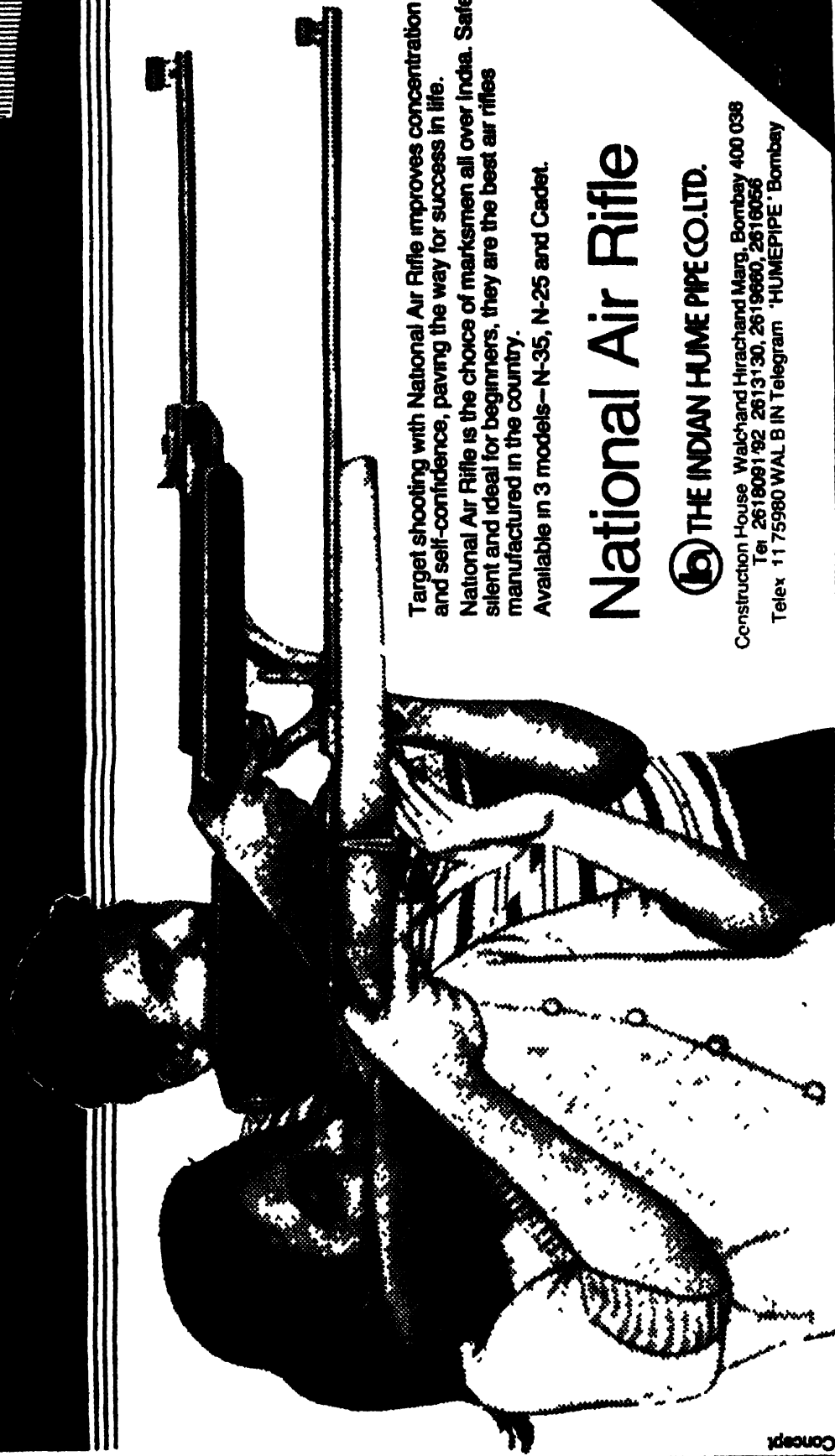
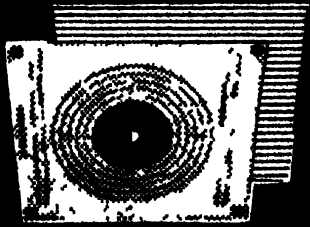
Well, for starters they are different individuals. Their temperaments are different. But in terms of tactical ability there is hardly any difference. Tactically, they are both very good captains.

But when you have four brilliant fast bowlers in the side and a batsman called Viv Richards, do you require any tactics?

Of course, of course! Cricket is a game of tactics. You've to know which bowler to bowl when. It's not a simple matter of rotating your bowlers. You have to use them judiciously, set proper fields and things like that. It's not as simple as giving one of them the ball and asking them to go and do it. It's never ever been

**Dujon doing what he does
best: wicketkeeping**

Target practice develops concentration and confidence to succeed in life.



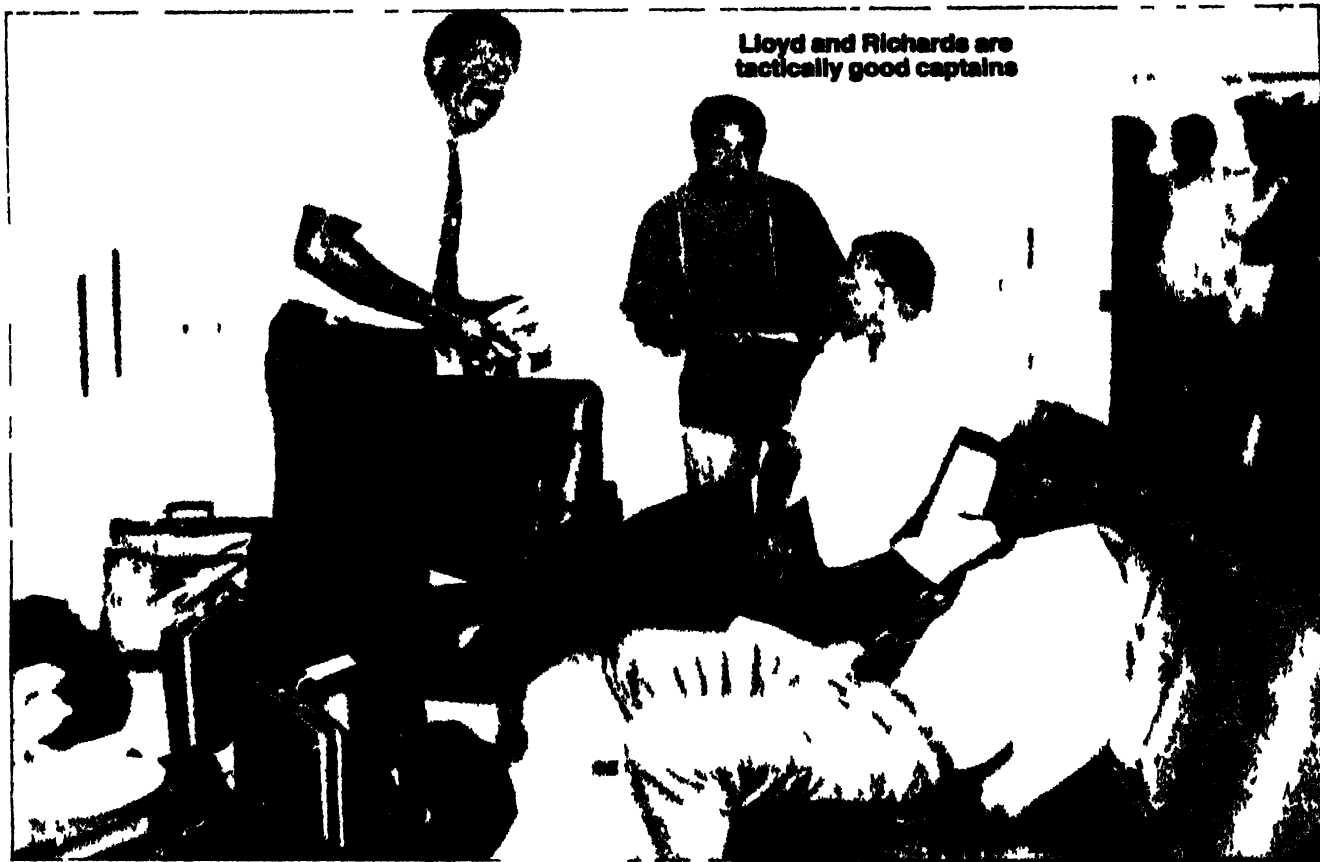
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Lloyd and Richards are tactically good captains

that simple. I think this is a very disparaging criticism to West Indies cricket because the standards that we have set in terms of fielding, bowling and batting during the last 10 years or more have been unattainable. You can't just bowl people out. You need good fielders to take catches, batsmen to get runs. So it's not a formality. A whole lot of hard work has gone into the success that we have enjoyed over the last 13 years. There is another school of thought which says that having four brilliant fast bowlers in the team can be counterproductive also. To handle them successfully you have to know the basics of man management as well apart from your other captaincy qualities.

I don't think that has ever been the problem in our team and I also don't foresee that in the coming years. We are a team and we do what is necessary to win. It doesn't matter as to who gets wickets. In the final analysis what is counted is the team's performance.

But isn't that an ideal situation which doesn't exist?

No, it's not. We never have morale problems. There is no jealousy between

Richards and Lloyd are different individuals... tactically though, they are good captains



If we don't play, the Board does not exist!

teammates, especially the bowlers. We are all there for one purpose: to win.

How did you develop this attitude?

I suppose that came automatically. We all know personally what it means to the West Indies to win. We enjoy playing with each other and, over the years, we've learnt to play with each other very well. We may come from different islands but we all have the same aim. And in the West Indies the unifying factor is the West Indies cricket team. We know what cricket means to the West Indians. Cricket is not just a bread and butter game; it's part of West Indian culture.

Be frank on this one... do you believe it is possible to dominate the four fast bowlers day in and day out?

Why not? It has been done. Mohinder Amarnath did that throughout a series. That too in the West Indies!

Gavaskar also to a certain extent.

Yes, Gavaskar. Then Allan Border, Allan Lamb. That proves it is possible! What man has done man can undo. But there is no definite formula for doing this. It always varies from batsman to batsman.

DELHI HORSE SHOW

Just Horsin' Around

"It is said that to create the Horse, God spoke to the South Wind thus I will create from you a being which will be a happiness to the good and a misfortune to the bad Happiness shall be on your forehead bounty on your back and joy in the possessor"
Genesis

... **And** so it was indeed at the President's Estate Polo Club (PEPC) Horse Show Churning up the grounds outside the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium were some 300 riders and their trusty steeds nostrils flaring hooving the ground anxious to get going They came in from all over the country Aligarh Muslim University ASC Centre Gaya, BSF 61 Cavalry Jaipur Delhi Mounted Police IAF IMA Dehradun ITBP NDA Khadakvasi a President's Bodyguard Remount and

Veterinary Corps and of course the PEPC and the Delhi Riding Club

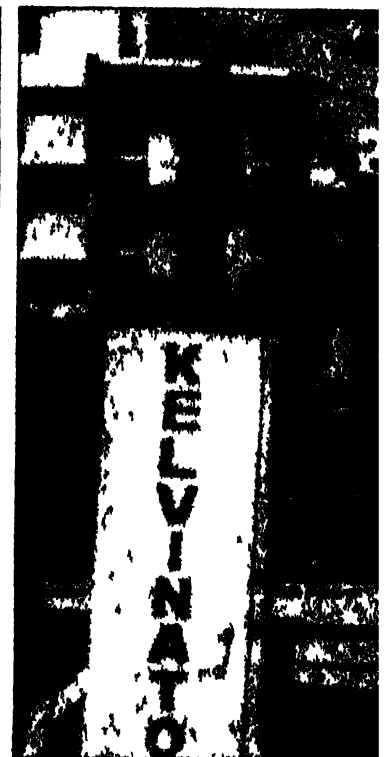
True, the sport owes its origin to the cavalry, but how long it can survive with such limited participation is a question which remains to be answered

With the aim of bringing equestrian sport back to the people, the PEPC has been organizing the Delhi Horse Show

since 1987 The stadium presented a carnival atmosphere, complete with colourful stalls all around and youngsters (some barely saddle high) leading their mounts about in a state of general excitement The PEPC's special efforts to induce the younger generation into the sport boasting over a dozen different events for the juniors alone

Maj J S Ahluwalia, the Asian Jumping Gold Medallist at Tokyo last year, was the unmatched star of the show Finishing the Open Jumping, a course with 14 jumps astride Eluxir in 35.44 seconds he had to settle for the second position having earned four

The Show Jumping competition (pictured below) attracted plenty of entries but it was Mahabir Singh who eventually came out the winner





penalties for knocking down an obstacle. Mahabir Singh took the first position with 37.08 and Sardar Ram third with 53.48 secs.

In the Individual Tent Pegging, an event where the rider is given eight seconds to cover a stretch of 100 mts, pierce the peg off the ground with his lance and carry it to a point 15 meters away, proved to be the prime test of riding

The military riders hogged most of the limelight

ability and dexterity as always. At the end of the rounds, SI Tek Ram and his steed Bela emerged victorious, followed by Jarnail Singh and Dalbir Sandu. Mahabir Singh astride Amar bagged the Open Jumping puissance title, resolved by a jump-off after five

riders finished with clear rounds. This event is designed more to test the mount rather than the rider, requiring to clear obstacles consecutively increasing in height. Sardara Ram finished second, sailing over the gate instead of riding over it as he was meant to. Capt. Adhiraj, coming in third, too failed to clear the obstacles and was unseated as his mount crashed into the wall

At the end of the day, satisfaction was writ over faces of all: riders, organizers and the spectators. It had been a good show of riding ability, indeed, but mostly a show of the military and the para-military forces at the same time. True the sport owes its origin to the cavalry, but how long it can survive with such limited participation is a question which remains to be answered. The point becomes all the more significant in the context of a country like ours where equestrian sports sprouted and developed. "Talent and ability is there, what is missing is the institutional and commercial support," Maj. Ahluwalia pointed out, "in the absence of which not much can be done by the average man, woman or child."

Text and photographs by Kumar Skanda



TRAINING WITH CROCS

To win a medal

JIM SMITH should have been the fastest swimmer at the Commonwealth Games. A white Swaziland (what do you know!), he trained for the Games in a dam on his vegetable farm near Lusaka. Nothing out of the ordinary there. But he also shared it with a number of crocodiles! Smith, however, insists that he generally used the side opposite to where the crocs used to gather.

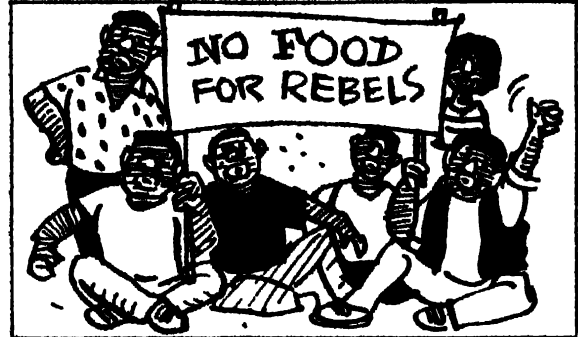
As he explained: "I tend to breathe only on one side so that I can keep an eye on them. When I see them coming towards me, I get out."

You bet! So would anyone, if they suddenly saw a croc heading for him. Maybe Smith should have had a couple of crocodiles patrolling the Commonwealth pool!



GATTING'S GARRULOUS PROBLEMS

In Johannesburg



IN a remarkable display of brotherhood and industrial camaraderie, about 300 black hotel workers where Mike Getting's English cricketers were staying demonstrated against the tour.

Nearly all the hotel's morning shift of maids, porters and kitchen staff paraded up and down escalators, then marched into a coffee

lounge before staging a sit-down.

When told that they might have to go without their meals, Getting unashamedly replied "I suppose, and I am doubly sure that there will be other places to eat."

Yeah, we're also sure that you and your boys will get more than a bellyfull, Mike. But tell me, do you take your coffee black?

FALDO SETS A TREND

Appoints a woman

NICK Faldo, it seems, has become a trendsetter of sorts. He has appointed a certain Ms. Sunny Sunnerson, a Swede and the only professional female caddy on the tour, under him. She will now serve him and carry his clubs.

"I don't envisage any problems," said Nick, when asked about this move. "I

know she is a woman in a man's world, but that is a novelty."

Sunnerson is capable of making a healthy living, serving Faldo. With Faldo's earnings expected to go over \$500,000 in prize money—of which about five to ten percent is her's, where, apart from her normal wages—we're going to be sharing some of your money.

ELTON CAN'T SELL...

His undertakings

TRY as he might, pop artist Elton John just cannot relinquish the post of chairman that he holds in the Watford football club, a second division side. His recent second attempt to dispose of his 93 percent share-holding of the club also bombed.

Negotiations were being made to sell the millionaire pop singer's shares to two London based businessmen, but the deals finally fell through. This means that John's 13-year-old reign as chairman will continue.

John, however, remains unperturbed. In Australia to prepare for the first performance of his world tour, he said "As always, my main interest will be the secure, sound and successful running of the club."

Then why did you want to sell, Elton?

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS:

1. Name the Olympic Swimming Champion who later became a film actor and Sheriff of Honolulu?

2. Who was the first woman athlete to represent India at the Olympics?

3. Along with Nadia Comaneci, who was the other girl to score perfect '10' in the Montreal Olympics?

4. Who was the first Indian to reach the mens' single quarter final in the Wimbledon?

5. A former Pakistan batsman says—"Batting was always my first love. But still I won two Tests for Pakistan—Trinidad in 1977 and Christchurch in 1979 with my bowling. That probably gave me more satisfaction than anything". Guess who?

6. Only once in his entire career has Gavaskar ended his innings with 0 not out. When?

7. In which sports do you have the 1000 M. sprint?

8. Which country in England has a cricket ground call "Sophis Gardens".

9. What is meant by 'plant' in pole-vault?

10. Which English Cricketer was

YOUR RATING TEST!

BELOW 4: Read Sportsworld more regularly.

BETWEEN 5 AND 9: You probably do read but forget faster

ABOVE 9: You're a sports buff

ALL 13: Sit on the next sports quiz.

Note: Give yourself a point for each correct answer

born in Zambia?

11. Which Indian bowler was called "Tiny"?

12. Everybody knows Denis Compton was also a soccer player. What was his position?

13. Which athlete won two Olympic gold medals while on parole?

ANSWERS:

1. Duke Kahanamoku, USA, winner of 1912 and 1920, 100 Mtrs. freestyle.

2. Mary D'Souza, Helsinki, 1952

3. Nelli Kim, USSR.

4. Gaus Muhammed.

5. Mustaq Muhammed.

6. Against England at Madras in 1972-73. He went in at No. 9 and India won the Test before he had scored.

7. Cycling.

8. Glamorgan at Cardiff.

9. The placing of the pole in the box at take-off.

10. P. Edmonds.

11. Ramakant Desai.

12. Outside left.

13. Bob Hayes.

**This quiz has been compiled by JISTOO PURKAYASTHA
C/o S. Purkayastha, Hospital Road, P.O. Dist.—Khariganj, Assam-786710**

RUNNING FREE



Why are the
Talloh

100
19

M

uch has been written about the wealth of raw talent in the Nandi hills, but the secret has never been

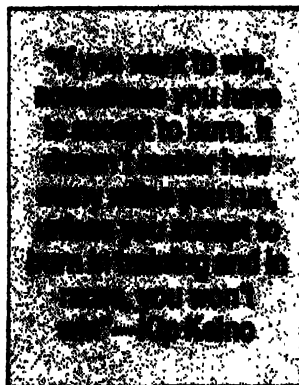
satisfactorily unearthed. The obvious answer is "altitude", yet one can point to great runners, such as the marathon man, Wakihuri, and the Tanzanians, Bayi and Ikangaa, who were not brought up at a great altitude.

One can also find places in the Andes, the Alps and the mountains of Asia, where large populations live at altitudes similar to those of the Kenyan highlands without producing a single athlete, so these can only be contributory factors.

If you drive north from Nairobi on the Uganda road, you wind laboriously up from 5,000 to 7,000 feet. You are in Kikuyu country, a rich, well populated land, full of bustle and bright colours. Looking out to the west, the Rift Valley stretches away into the distance, where the Masai graze their herds.

Going further north, you cross the Equator, and reach a height of over 9,000 feet at Timboroa. Timboroa has so far produced no athletes. Ten miles further on, there is a left fork in the road; if you follow this, you come to a point with a panorama of gently rolling hills and woods. These are the Nandi Hills, and

Julius Korir wins the 3000m steeplechase gold at the LA Olympics



they have produced more Olympic gold medals winners in athletics in the last 25 years than most European nations.

I went up there with Mike Boit, who but for the boycott might well have been the winner of

the 800 metres in Montreal. I first met him when he was a student and I was a teacher at Kenyatta College in 1971. The following year he won a bronze medal behind Kip Keino in Munich, the start of an international career which lasted until 1985.

Like many others Kenyans, he followed the American college trail, taking a first degree in New Mexico, a Master's at Stanford and, eventually, a PH.D. at Eugene, Oregon. Every year he travelled the European circuit: Oslo, Brussels, Zurich and London.

He went back to Kenya at the end of the season,

A rare sight in Kenyan athletics. Junior star Elizabeth Omayago

bought a few more cows or a bit more land, then went back to the United States to study. Now, he is Dr Boit, a man of property, head of the physical education department at Kenyatta University, and spokesman for the Kenya AAA.

He showed me his old home in Lessos, from where one could see Henry Rono's home, Amos Biwott's home and Kip Keino's home.

Maybe the secret is a genetic one—certainly, no one can reach these levels of performance without the genetic potential, and the Nandis, with a population of no more than a quarter of a million, must share a common gene pool. But Boit does not share this view. "In the old days, the Nandis were great warriors; we took the best land, we had the most cattle, we would raid the other tribes for wives and cattle. Even the Luo, who outnumbered us 10 to one, were afraid to attack us. But the Nandi are not exclusive; anyone can become a Nandi, through observing our traditions, so we tend to assimilate people from other tribes."

One of the traditions is the circumcision ceremony which young men have to undergo. It is very painful, but no one ever cries out because it is a matter of pride. It is there, in that warrior's pride, that part of their secret lies.

This matter of pride

was developed further when I talked to Kip Keino. For my generation, Keino remains the greatest of all the great Kenyans. He competed in three Olympic Games, something which others were denied by the boycotts of 1976 and 1980. He won the 1,500 metres gold medal in Mexico in 1968, and was runner-up in the 5,000 metres, and four years later, in Munich, he won the steeplechase and was runner-up in the 1,500 metres. He spent most of his running career in the police force, but has earned the respect of his countrymen. I went to visit him on his farm outside Eldoret.

Kipchoge is a gentleman. He insisted we stay for lunch, he showed me the farm, he apologised for being a little tired. "One of our boys got married yesterday. We put on a party for 400, and 600 turned up."

The boy was not one of his own sons, but one of the "family" which he and his wife, Phyllis, maintain—45 orphaned or abandoned children, between the ages of a few months and 18 years. It is an immense load, which he shrugs off unassumingly.

When he talked about running, he used the same phrase that I remember him using in a training talk before the 1972 Games: "If you want to win, sometimes you have to accept to burn. It doesn't matter how many miles you run, unless you accept to burn, in training and in races, you won't win."

I asked him what made the Nandis successful. "There was a



man on the farm next door to me. He went off abroad to run, and did well. I thought 'if he can do it' so I started to take running seriously." From this simple beginning, it seems, things spread.

AMOS BIWOTT, another neighbour, decided that he, too, was a good enough runner to run for Kenya—he won the Olympic steeplechase in Mexico—and the young Mike Bolt followed their lead. Here, another factor came in, for Bolt, like other promising athletes, was taken into St Patrick's School, Iten, where he received a good education and organized training from the dedicated Irish brothers who run it.

For more than 25 years St Patrick's has turned out leading sportsmen. They have helped many an athlete towards achieving his dream, but the important thing is the dream itself. All men live for their dreams, but the dreams of glory burns more strongly in Kenya than anywhere else in the world. The flame was lit in the Nandi Hills.

At first, it spread only by word of mouth, so was confined to a small area, but now it has spread all over the country. Coaching is rudimentary, facilities are few and far between, but the climate and the country are superb, and the rewards for the successful athlete,

Rono wins the 1500m in the Seoul Olympics compared with the subsistence economy of much of the country, ensure a constant stream of talented youngsters entering the competitive system.

It is just as well that the talent pool is large because the wastage is appalling. It seems that nature has compensated for Kenya having the best athletes by giving them the worst administration. As fast as the talent appears, it disappears, in a westerly direction, bound for the United States. Here, the athletes develop fast but they seldom last long, and there is continual friction between the "American" Kenyans and the officials. Perhaps friction is the wrong word because it implies contact which is just what is lacking.

For last month's trials for the commonwealth games, tickets were supposed to have been sent out for their return. It was announced quite positively that the list, three in each event, would be selected, if they achieved the qualifying standard. In the event, only one of the "Americans" competed, and the declared selection policy was torn up.

Paul Ereng pleaded an injury, and never left the United States—where it would not be surprising to find him fit for the lucrative indoor season. Billy Konchellah, apparently fit and well two days before the trials, decided to watch the 800 metres rather than run. Robert Kibet, the find of the 1989 season, did run but dropped out. The

**Douglas Wakihuri:
Kenya's marathon
man who lives in
Japan and speaks four
languages**

selectors picked the first two, Nixon Kiprotich and Sammy Tirop, and added Kibet, thus leaving out the current Olympic champion and the current world champion

WILFRED OANDA KIROCHI, who ranked third in the world 1,500 metres last season, finished only fourth in the trial. He was rightly selected, not at the expense of the third man Joseph Cheshire but of the second man, the Masai runner Sisa Kirati, whose run of 3min 37sec at altitude, was well inside the qualifying standard

And so it went on. In the steeplechase in which Kenya has the world's leading three runners the first and third in the trials were picked but not the second. In the 5,000 metres none of the first three was picked, the selectors preferring the reputations of Yobes Ondieki, who did not run, and John Ngugi, who came fifth

Kenya's abundance of talent is its weakness as well as its strength. Who needs a development programme when you only have to put on a trial race to find someone like Robert Kibet or Joseph Kibor? No matter that there are virtually no field event athletes, and only a handful of women competitors, as long as there are men in the hills who can run the legs off the rest of the world



The obvious answer is 'altitude', yet one can point to such great runners, such as the marathon man Douglas Wakihuri and the Tanzanians, Bayi and Kangaa, who were not brought up at a great altitude

My Career Is Incomplete:

John Walker

HE is a living legend. At an age when most athletes decide to call it a day and enjoy the fruits of their labour, John Walker is still at it, pounding the track just as he did, in the Seventies, when most of his current teammates were still in junior school. He turned 38 on January 12, a little over two weeks before the XIV Commonwealth Games began in his hometown in Auckland.

Walker, the first man to run the mile under 3:50 and the first man to go under four minutes for the mile more than a hundred times, has had a kind of a career, which would be the envy of most athletes. He won the Olympic gold medal for the 1,500 metres at Montreal in 1976, but he still feels his career is incomplete in that he never managed the Commonwealth Gold—he lost the 1,500m final to Filbert Bayi in Christchurch in 1974. That was his first Commonwealth Games and now the wheel has turned a full circle, Walker is back in his own country to compete in his fifth Commonwealth Games. Not much proof needed about his durability.

"I am still doing what I love most," he says when asked about his running at this age. But he still has a few more loves which he keeps to himself—his stud farm, his horses, including Zephyr which kicked him playfully and put him out of action for a couple of weeks, his family and children.

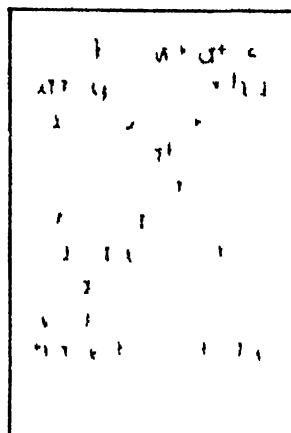
Walker is a contented man and when you see him leaning against the wooden gate and staring into the faraway sky, seeing the sun go down across the vast expanse of his farm, you would be ready to give your right arm to know what the great man is thinking. "Oh nothing. It's only about the next 1,500m run I am going to do," he says with a wide grin. And you can bet your last buck, that was precisely what he was thinking about.

Asim Handa spent a few hours with him at the farm in Auckland and shared a few thoughts with the living legend. Following are the excerpts.

Normally we would expect an athlete to shift to longer distances in later years as even you did when you attempted the 5000m at the 1986 Edinburgh Commonwealth Games. What made you revert to the 1500m for this year's Commonwealth Games?

Physically what you say maybe correct, but running is a much more complex affair. I did think I could handle the 5,000m better but I never enjoyed racing over 12-1/2 laps as much as I did over 3 and three quarters.

The curtain comes down on your career after next year's European track season; how would you like to be remembered?



As a person who avoided nobody, who ran against the best and gave his best. I would like to think that I have given it my best every time I raced, I have never flunked a race. Nobody could ever say that I haven't been consistent right through my entire career. The career certainly has gone on a lot longer than it

possibly should have. But on the other hand, I went into athletics for the same reason that I still do it now, and that is pure enjoyment.

Generally a country likes their sports heroes to be meek and humble but you have been very forthright on different issues during your career. Has it bothered you that you have been unpopular at times?

I guess it has, but probably not any more. But what is arrogance, what is brashness, what is confidence? They are all the qualities of a champion, and you have got to have them to be good. That applies not only in athletics but in all sports. But the problem in most countries is that to be confident and to be sure of one's self doesn't go down well because we want meek and mild sports people who just fit into the rest of stereotype. Unfortunately, that doesn't work. If you are going to be the best in

"I am still doing"

"I would like to think that I have given it my best every time I raced, I have never flunked a race. Nobody could ever say that I haven't been consistent right through my entire career"



the world, you have to be confident. It's not an arrogance in the way you think that you are better than anybody else, it's just being sure of oneself.

With your passion for horses and breeding, is it more likely that you will be going to race courses rather than athletic stadia when your career does wind down?

Yes, I have always been interested in horses. I relate to them much more because they are very much on the lines of athletes. I have always wanted to train a horse, not for public training or anything like that. But something reasonable that we have bred ourselves and that we could potter along with between my wife and myself.

Many athletic experts feel that your long career has prevented the rise of youngsters in middle distance running in New Zealand. Do you agree with that?

If that is the effect I have, it's a winning effect 'for me', but the other athletes are never going to make it. I mean that's what happens in Europe when you get people like Acuita, Coe and Cram in a race. The other athletes don't believe they are good enough to win, and those athletes will never make it. I can remember running against Dixon and Quax and all these other people. I led and I got run down, but I thought 'maybe one day I won't.'

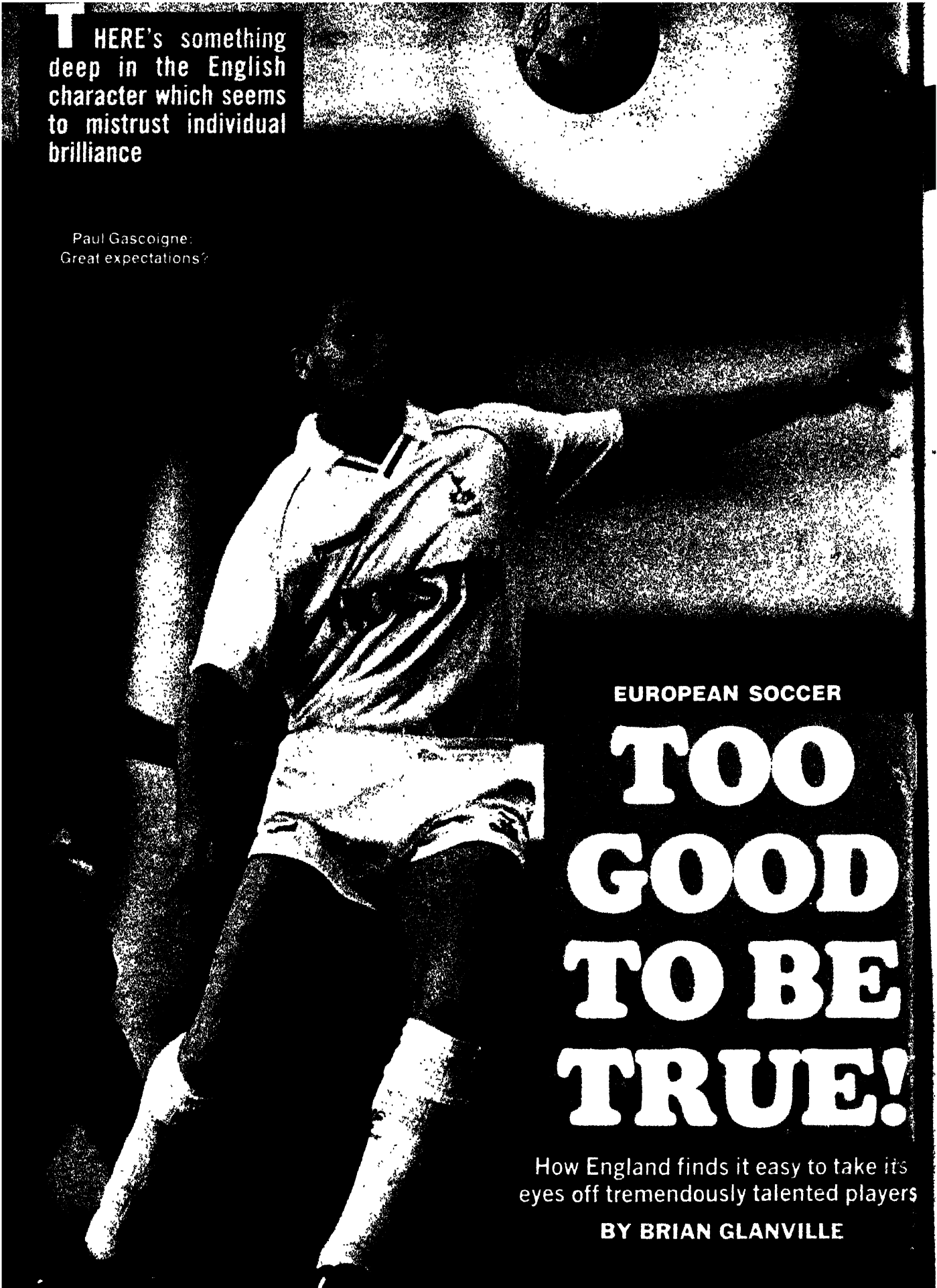
Are there still ways and means of getting around the drug testing programme in international athletics?

I have probably been the most outspoken person on this issue. I was the one who accused the IAAF of covering up in 1983 at the World Championships, and I got slapped over the hand and told to shut up. But I still believe I was right and feel I have been proven right. But the problem is that there are countries in the world who do not believe in the same principles as I do. They don't believe that taking drugs is cheating—they believe it's winning. They believe in winning at all costs because it helps their federation and it helps them get more money towards their particular sport. It frightens me because there is a helluva lot of people out there who are competing fairly.

Is a sub four minute mile at the age of 40 a goal?

I don't know. I am 38 now and you just don't know how the body deteriorates in two years. I think it is possible, but to do it I have to stay at the same fitness and conditioning level as I am right now. One thing is certain, that I could never run veteran athletics. When I have competed at the level I have, I couldn't stand my mates running in one division while I am running in another. You know, there's "old man Walker". I just couldn't do it.

that I love most"



THERE's something deep in the English character which seems to mistrust individual brilliance

Paul Gascoigne:
Great expectations?

EUROPEAN SOCCER

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

How England finds it easy to take its eyes off tremendously talented players

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

P

AUL GASCOIGNE, Tottenham's gifted midfielder,

began the year out of action with a cracked arm after a well-publicised clash with an opponent

Sir Stanley Matthews, football's foremost knight, began February by celebrating his 75th birthday

Two events apparently unconnected — yet these two players, from vastly different eras, have in common controversy over their talents and their credentials for inclusion in the England team

After England B had beaten Yugoslavia B at Millwall and England proper had beaten Yugoslavia at Wembley recently in each case by a score of 2-1, a fair old argument broke out

Gascoigne was the unwitting subject of it, Bobby Robson, the national team manager, started it Terry Venables Gascoigne's manager at Tottenham, pitched in on behalf of his player

But the overall significance of the row went far beyond a single, talented, controversial player

For this has been the pattern and the tendency in England for the best part of a century. Not even the great Matthews, worshipped on the Continent, could ever be sure of his place in the national team

Charlie Buchan, the great, inventive inside-forward of his day — his career spanning the First World War — was seen as "too clever" for England and won only a handful of caps

Bobby Robson

Later on, there was Len Shackleton, known as the Clown Prince of Soccer and a superbly gifted, idiosyncratic inside forward who, like Buchan, slipped through Arsenal's grasp

as an amateur

Shackleton never went back to them, however, as Buchan triumphantly did, but went on to be a major star with Newcastle United and Sunderland

He, too, scarcely played for England, for all his marvellous skill and flair, his ability to distribute the ball

The story goes that he was once at an England training session when the manager, the highly academic coach Walter Winterbottom, told the forwards "I just want you to run down the field,

interpassing. Then when you get to the goal, put the ball into the net

Shackleton looked up with enormous boredom and disdain and said "Which side of the net, Mr Winterbottom?"

Matthews, at 19, played his second match for England against the flying boots of an Italian team kicking everything in sight after Monti, their centre half, had gone off with a broken toe

Naturally, he didn't shine. The *Daily Mail* sports columnist, Geoffrey Simpson, wrote next day that Matthews had "displayed the same faults of slowness and hesitation" he'd previously shown in a representative game "Perhaps he does not possess the big match temperament"

Matthews, who would go on tearing international defences to pieces till the age of 41, Matthews, who at that advanced age ran riot at Wembley against allegedly the best left





back in the world, Brazil's Nilton Santos!

Time and again though Matthews was snubbed by England. When the brilliant young Tom Finney returned from Army service in the Second World War, what a good excuse that was for kicking out Matthews.

It took the dull England selectors a year to realise that Finney could play on the left, Matthews on the right. And when they did so

for the first time, Portugal were annihilated 10-0 in Belo Horizonte.

So it was perhaps predictable that Robson should be so ungracious about Gascoigne after his excellent display at Millwall, one which I watched, whereas the England manager, arriving late, saw only an hour of it.

Still, he was there to witness Gascoigne crown a fine exhibition with a superb solo run

and a fine cross from the goal-line which gave Mike Newell England's decisive second goal.

Hearing Robson moan away about how much Gascoigne still had to learn, how he had been guilty, which was true, of a couple of silly back-heels, how he needed a "piston" of a player to line up beside the skipper, Bryan Robson, in the full England team, one was forcefully reminded of how grudgingly he used to talk about another

midfield man, the gloriously inventive Glenn Hoddle.

Robson never truly came round to him even though there was a short, strange period, just before the 1986 World Cup, when he suddenly started raving about him in Colorado Springs, where England were in training.

Roy Wegerle, the highly-gifted South African winger, recently sold by Luton for £1 million to Queen's Park Rangers and wanted by the USA for their World Cup team, didn't forget all this.

When Robson appealed to him not to commit himself to the USA, promising he'd pick him in his next England squad, he retorted that he remembered how Hoddle, a ball player like himself, had never secured a regular place in the England side. No thanks, he'd choose America.

There's something deep in the English character which seems to mistrust individual brilliance though gifted individuals are forever showing up in every walk of life.

Even the Italians, a far more outgoing and flamboyant people, can display the same characteristics. Just look how hard the dazzling Roberto Baggio of Fiorentina, for all his skill and gifts, finds it to get into the Italian attack. Even a superb two-goal performance against Bulgaria hasn't really unlocked the door. Azeglio Vicini, the manager, still doesn't really seem to trust him. Gascoigne is not alone.

Congrats

MY heartiest congratulations to Steffi Graf for winning the Australian Open. By winning this Grand Slam title, she is now steadily progressing towards her second Grand Slam.



Steffi Graf

It was a tough match against Sukova in the semi-finals but like the champion she is, she overcame all the hurdles.

In the finals, against Mary Joe Fernandez, she had an easy time.

And at the rate she is going, she is unstoppable!

SUBRAT SAMAL,
Rourkela.

Interesting

The cover story, 'Back to the Future' (*Sportsworld*, Jan 24th) made interesting reading. The highlights of Kapil Dev's career record when compared to the rest of the team is very good.

See the experience that Kapil Dev has: he has bowled 21,665 balls while the rest of the team totals only a paltry 3626 balls. I wish further success to Kapil Dev.
K. RAMACHANDRA,
Tuticorin

Unsung

THE unsung ironmen of India have really done a

commendable job by winning so many medals in the recently concluded Commonwealth Games. Mr P.S. Sandhu, the coach of the lifters must be a truly happy man.
ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttaok.

Well Done

CONGRATS to Mudar Patherya and Company for the exhaustive and absorbing report on the ruthless sacking of the senior cricketers from the team to New Zealand.

Of all the seniors sacked, Vengsarkar's case is the most pitiable and uncalled for, as he

referee to conduct a match without controversy because there is so much of pressure on him. It is time that he receives more appreciation and financial rewards.

S. HUSSAIN, Dibrugarh.

Shocked

I was shocked to find that no athlete was sent to participate in the Commonwealth Games. After all, there were quite a few good performances at the ATF Meet in Delhi in November. But most amazing was that the relay team could not go because P.T. Usha did not want to go. Since when is the



Dilip Vengsarkar

seems to be back to form after opting out of the Pakistan tour. He is brushed aside for Gursharan Singh. There is no doubt that the selectors have made a mistake!
SRINIVAS NAYAPATHY,
Rajamundhry.
Well, look who's been called for...Ed

The Man In Black

PRADEEP PAUL's article, 'The Man In Black' (*Sportsworld*, 24th Jan) is interesting and inspiring. It is difficult for a

interests of the country at the whims of a particular athlete?
AMIT KR. DAS,
Calcutta.

Enjoyable

I have become a reader of *Sportsworld* for the past six months. I really enjoy it. I have taken it as a real close friend. It is interesting to read: especially the exclusive interview with Akram.

Keep up the good work.
BHARITI,
Orissa.

CALCUTTA

THE Lagden Shield and the Lakshmbilash Cup traditionally serve as the lung openers to the senior division BHA hockey league. And Food Corporation of India (FCI) seems to be in fine nick because they won both the tournaments, a week apart, at the SAI-Netaji Subhas complex at Salt Lake.

FCI's victory in the Lagden Shield came against Howrah Union: the scoreline reading 3-2. They scored through Apurba Bhattacharya (two) and F. Nikotin. Howrah Union however pulled two back through the wily Mark Jennings and the mercurial Pratul Singh Rawat. But FCI defended the one-goal cushion in the remaining time.

In the Lakshmbilash Cup final, against Calcutta Port Trust, FCI triumphed by a similar margin. Bhaskar Ahmed of FCI drew first blood, going on to double the lead. But Port Trust retaliated when Gurudas Chatterjee made no mistake from the penalty spot, before the half time.

In the next half, J. Surin made the issue safe for FCI with a goal immediately after resumption. The score read 3-1 but in the dying minutes of the game, Port struck back when Chatterjee converted a second penalty stroke.

State Archery

THE State Archery championships, held recently at the SAI-Netaji Subhas Campus in Salt Lake recently, was shrouded in irony. The reason: The State champion Supriyo Kundu broke his arrow during a practice session and could not compete because it could not be repaired anywhere in the city.

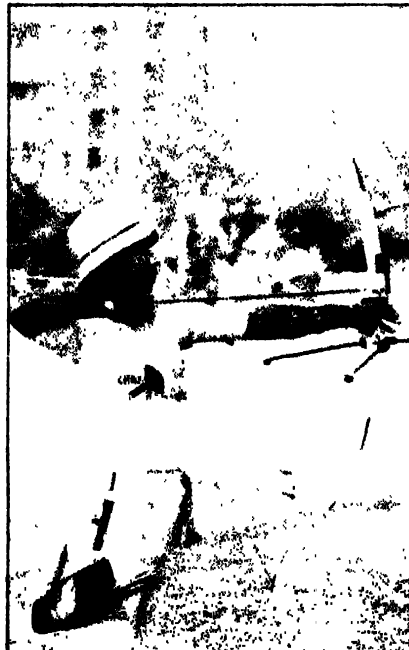
But, apart from that, the meet passed off smoothly. Winter is just the right time for archery and taking full advantage of a bright sunny day with no wind disturbance was Rajat Halder of



FCI: good start to the season

Arjuna Archery Club. In good form, Halder, not an unknown in the national circuit, won the men's title logging 1258 points. Teammate Pushpendu Sarkar took the second spot with 1129 points while B.R. Basumatari, grabbed the third spot with 1103 points.

On the women's side, holder Krishna Das had it rather rough.



Champion Rajat Halder

She missed more times than was permissible and finished a poor third. Tira Samanta emerged the new champion while Phalguni Chatterjee came second.

The other results:

Junior Boys: Nilay Dutta
Junior Girls: Manju Chakraborty
Sub-Junior boys: Suwendu Biswas
Sun-junior girls: Shiela Samanta

There are a lot of reasons for the poor development of archery in the State. Firstly, most of the equipment is imported and therefore it is very expensive. Added to that, there are no agencies that undertake the repair of faulty equipment. Spare parts are also impossible to get. So, the future of archery in the State is very bleak.

Soumitra Bose

RANCHI

Birsa Munda Hockey

IT was a fitting tribute to the legendary tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda when two teams, comprising tribal players, clashed in the final of the first All India Birsa Munda Memorial women's hockey tournament played at the Satbadi Stadium recently.

The final was between South Eastern Railway and Bihar. The match began on an even pace with both sides launching a series of attacks and counter-attacks. However, none of them resulted in goals. In the second half, the Railway girls redoubled their attacks and earned two penalty corners in succession. But again, nothing happened. However, off the eighth penalty corner, Alma Guria passed the ball to Salomi Putri who deflected it to Savitri Putri. Savitri scooped the ball accurately to sound the boards.

Fifteen minutes later, Alma Guria showed her class when she raced past the Railway line after receiving a long hit from Dayamoni Soy. Before the goalkeeper could react, she pushed the ball in to give the Railway team an invincible 2-0 lead.

Earlier, in the semi-final Ranchi beat Haryana by a solitary goal scored by Sushila Topno. In the second semi-final, South Eastern Railways beat Air India, Bombay, 2-0. The Railways girls got a penalty stroke in the 33rd minute which was converted by Alma Guria. Half an hour later, Sumitra Kujur's shot at goal beat the goalkeeper hands down.

Railway's international Alma Guria rightly received the Sheikh Bhikhari trophy for the best player of the tournament. Ironically, the tournament was played on grass because some tribal players objected to the laying of the astroturf. However, there is hope that finally the astro-turf will be laid out in the near future.

Arun Kumar Thankur

ASSAM

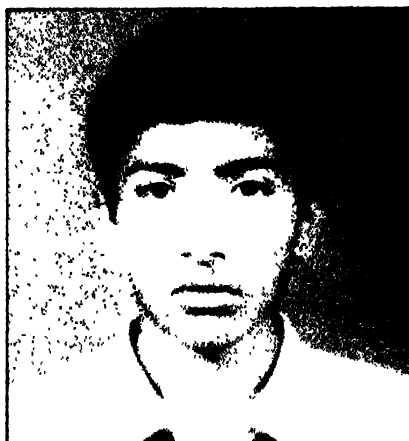
Junior Tennis

THE All Assam Junior tennis championship concluded recently at the Nehru Stadium Tennis training centre. And the surprise winners were from Rajasthan. In the boys-Under-14 group, Chanderbear Singh defeated K. Rajb of Hyderabad, 6-3, 6-2. The other winner was J.



South Eastern Railway: the champions

Tanwar of Rajasthan who defeated Anirban Dutta of West Bengal, 6-2, 6-2 in the Under-16 group.



Chanderbear Singh: the Under-14 champion

Some of the other winners were: Girls Under 14: Runumi Das defeated Chiranjita Kakoti, both from Assam; 6-1; 6-0.

Under 16: The final could not be held as Sukanya Chowdhury left for Jaipur on that day.

Boney Sen

TRIVANDRUM

State Police Athletics

THE 23rd Kerala State Police Athletic championships concluded at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium recently, with the Chief Minister of Kerala E.K. Nayanar giving way the prizes. In an otherwise unspectacular championships, two national and police records were bettered.

In the high jump, Ajayakumar set a new national mark with a jump of 2.01m. This erased the 32-year old mark set by Ajith Singh of the BSF. Another national mark was set in the pole vault when M. Rajan sailed over the bar at a height of 4.60m. The lone meet record was set by international Roy P. Joseph who won the 200m with a time of 21.9 secs.

The individual championship for men was won by A Ramachandran while Meenakshy of Palghat won the women's championships. M. Rajan was



Best athlete M. Rajan during the pole vault

declared the best athlete of the meet Trivandrum and Ernakulam annexed the men's and women's team championships respectively

P. Venu Govinda Kumar

DHANBAD

India Gold Cup Soccer

WEST BENGAL lifted the India Gold Cup when they defeated Kerala 2-0 in an exciting final of a two week tournament held at Dhanbad recently

Both the goals came in the first half of the match In the sixth minute Champa Chatterjee opened the scoring with a straight shot at the goal The next goal came in the 18th minute when Sonali Baidhya's right footer hit

the post and went in That sealed the fate of Kerala who, despite reorganising themselves, just could not get the equaliser

In all, 19 States participated in the competition which was organised by the Dhanbad Football Association
Shivnath Ma



BSF's Adivasi hockey connections has paid dividends Their new look team is emerging as a formidable force in the 1990s, two All-India tournaments in the space of a fortnight proves that convincingly First they won the Shriram tournament at Kota beating Punjab Police by a solitary goal Then they annexed the 12th

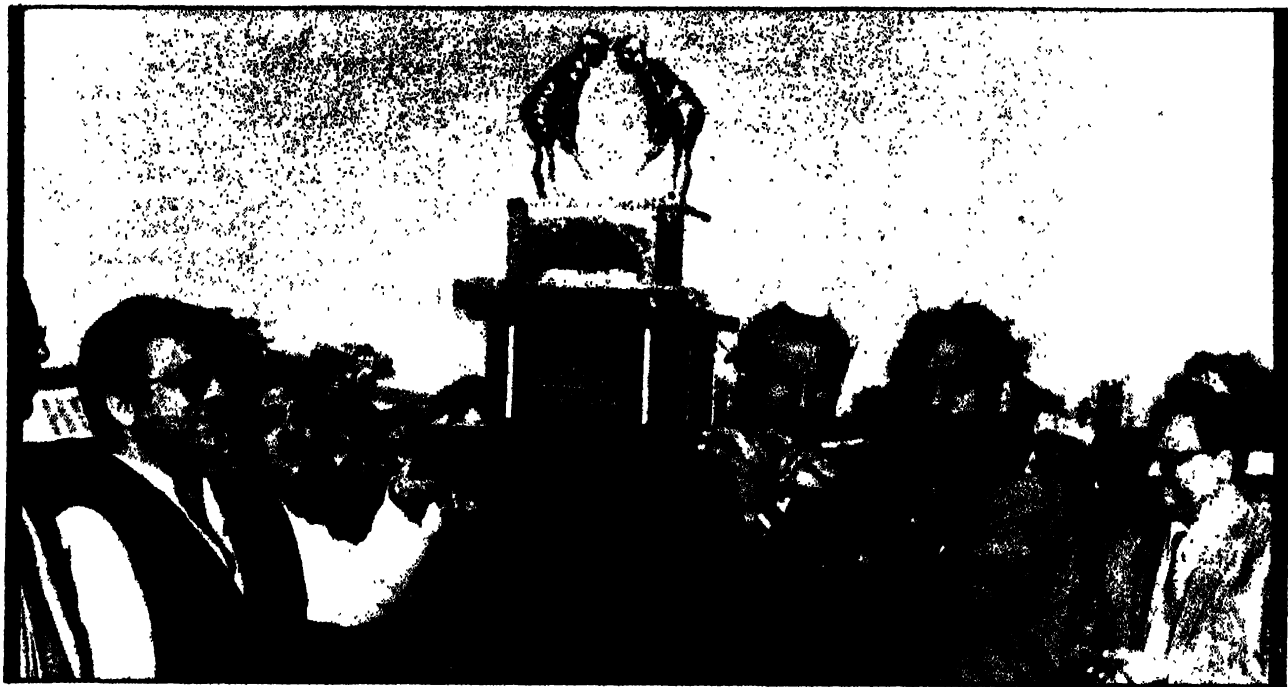
West Bengal team with the glittering India Gold Cup

All India Rai Bahadur Gujarmal Modi Hockey tournament at the Sports Stadium, Meerut BSF thus won the trophy for the fourth time

Except for Indian Airlines and Mahindras, all the leading hockey teams of the country participated at Meerut Seeded to the quarter finals, BSF beat the Bijnore Gold Cup winners, ONGC 1-0 in the quarter final and Northern Railway 2-1 in the semi final In the final BSF and ASC, both Jalandhar outfits, played spirited hockey but were deadlocked 1-1

The tie-breaker saw BSF trail 1-2 after two rounds Then former Indian junior custodian, Sarabjit Kumar's tactical ploy befuddled the ASC attackers Taking off his chest guard to gain flexibility of movement Sarabjit even resorted to shrewd gamesmanship Before the ASC players took their penalty strokes he advanced menacingly and stared at them Umpire Kukko Walia warned Sarabjit to remain stationary but the damage was done ASC's Paulus Horo and





Duljan Tirkey missed their strokes. The BSF players confidently converted their next three strokes to win the final 5-3 on aggregate. Sarabjit's Schumacher act, relying on psychological intimidation to achieve success had worked.

Unlike a decade ago, when BSF relied primarily on players from Punjab, their current squad is more cosmopolitan. They have six Adivasi players in their first eleven. Recruited as promising teenagers at BSF's Hazaribagh centre in 1985-86, they were trained intensively at Jalandhar by ex-Olympians Udham Singh and Vinod Kumar. Spending a couple of years in the BSF 'B' team, playing in lesser important tournaments, they have now monopolised places in the 'A' team.

Praising their dedication, coach Vinod Kumar said, "Initially, our plan was to help national integration by recruiting Adivasi players. But we found that they were good learners, very disciplined and had immense potential. So we launched a major talent hunt drive in the Khunti and Simdagh regions of Bihar. Right half Angeles Belung and inside left Simon Bage are from Simdagh and the two full backs Neuman Kulu and Neuman

UP Minister for Sports, Aslam Sher Khan presents the Gujarmal Modi trophy to BSF

Murmu, outside right Roshan Daniel Surin and left winger Loomba Dodne are from the Khunti region."

Simon Bage is a dashing inside forward or centre forward in the B.P. Govinda mould. He has speed, good work rate and stickwork. The gamemaker for BSF—he excelled at both Meerut and Kota—Bage is a modern player who can play as a roving forward and is comfortable in any position. He combines speed and power with stickwork.

Just 20 years old, Simon Bage is an India prospect. Coach Vinod Kumar also rates dashing winger Loomba Dodne highly. Right half Angeles Belung is already an India reserve and was one of the 32 probables for the Asia Cup and World Cup tournaments.

Other teams to impress at the Modi hockey tournament were the Cedric D'Souza-trained Air India, semi finalists Punjab and Sind Bank and speedy ASC. The best match of the tournament was between Air India and Punjab and Sind Bank in the quarter final with both teams playing intelligent and entertaining

hockey.

Air India is the most thinking team in the country. They bemused the bankmen with their tactics of three defenders, one striker and two roving forwards. Striker Darryl D'Souza running in from the blind side struck narrowly over the bar. Air India, however, lost in the tie-breaker much to the disappointment of the appreciative Meerut crowd.

Seoul Olympian, Gundeep Kumar showed he is still a lethal forward and was unlucky to be dropped from the Lahore World Cup squad when he scored two brilliant opportunistic goals against ASC in the semi finals. Gundeep has revealed good speed and stickwork as a centre forward or an inside forward. He said, "I prefer playing in the centre than as a winger. For India I was wrongly used as a winger. I hope to make a comeback to the national team soon."

ASC, coached by former Services player Avtar Singh, played European style hockey relying on speed and quick counter attacks. Services centre forward Sukran Aind impressed with his work rate and control as did inside right Ajit Lakra, custodian C.P. Thimmaya and left winger Paulus Horo.

Novy Kapadia

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. In which sport was the World Cup tournament formerly known as Canada Cup?
2. Which English football Club is nicknamed Hammers?
3. Which formation did Alf Ramsey use when England won the football World Cup in 1966?
4. Who were the first British football team to win two different European trophies?
5. In which event of athletics there are hurdles to be cleared but no lanes?
6. What are "open" screens in basketball?
7. What was the real name of 'Patsy' Hendren?
8. 'Wipe-out' is a water sport term. What is the sport?
9. What is the difference between 'stalemate' and 'checkmate' in chess?

ANSWERS

1. Golf.
2. West Ham United
3. 4-3-3.
4. Tottenham Hotspur. European Cup Winners' Cup (1963) and U.E.F.A. Cup (1972).
5. The 3,000 metres steeplechase.
6. Screens set up at the side of, or in front of, stationary opponents. They are 'open' because they are set up within the field of vision of the opponent.
7. Elias Henry Hendren.
8. Surfing.
9. Checkmate is victory for one of the two sides. While 'Stalemate' is a draw.

CHESS

This game is a real monster. Analysis in depth would mean pages of anarchy. However one might be able to pinpoint a few critical moments.

White: Timman Vs Black: Speelman, 3rd game, Candidates '89.

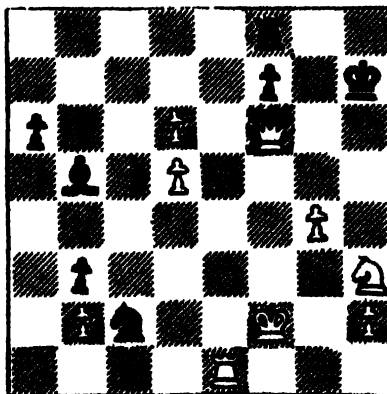
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 05 7 d5 e6 8 Qd2 ed5 9 od5 a6 10 a4 Re6 11 Nge2

Nbd7 12 Ng3 h5 13 Be2 h4 14 Nf1 Ne5 15 Bg5 h3 16 g4 Qa5 17 Ng3 b5. Normally white would play 17 Ra3 to delay the break but Timman is playing for mate.

18 0-0 b4 19 Nd1 c4 20 Be3! After this black has excellent play but even after the thematic 20 Nf2 c3! 21 bc3 bc3 22 Queen moves, a very dynamic position results. White has the makings of a strong attack but black could also crash through on the queenside.

20—Nfd7! 21 f4 Nc5 22 fe5 Nb3 23 Qe1 Nxa1 24 Qf2 Rf8 25 Bxc4 Qxa4. Here Speelman could try either 25—Bxe5 26 b3 Qd8 27 Nb2 Bxg4 28 Ra1 f5 returning the material for a counterattack. or even 25—b3 26 ed6 Bxg4. 26 ed6 b3? Best is 26—Qc2 27 Be2 Nb3 with an excellent game. Now white's attack flares up. 27 Bd4! Bxd4. Now allowing a perpetual by 27—Qxc4 28 Bxg7 Kxg7 29 Qf6+ Kh7 30 Nh5 gh5 31 Rf5! Bxf5 32 Qxf5+ is safer. 28 Qxd4 Nc2 29 Qc3 Bd7? The exchange of queens by 29—Qb4 looks sensible. 30 Nh5!! gh5 31 Qf6 Qxc4 32 Qg5+ Kh8 33 Qxh5+ Kg7 34 Qg5+ Kg8 35 Qh6+ Kh8 36 Qg5+ Kh8 37 Rf6! Qxe4 38 Rh6+ Qh7 39 Qf6+ Kg8 40 Rxb Kxh7 41 Nf2 Rae6 Despite his material deficit white should win by a direct attack. 42 Nxh3 Re1+ 43 Kf2 Bb5 (see Diagram) 44 Nf4?? The obvious 44 Ng5+ Kg8 45 Qh6 Bd3 46 d7 Rd8 47 Ne6! fe6 48 Qg5+ would win. The last error in adifficult game. 44—Rf1+ 45 Kg3 Ne1 46 Qf5B+ Kg8 47 Qg5+ (1/2-1/2). White settles for the perpetual as black starts counterattacking in force.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Those who had gone through my article on the recently-concluded nationals last week know that Sudhir Ganguly and Ranen Ghosh scored a double, winning the Ruia Open Teams as well as the Holkar Open Pairs. Here is Sudhir in action in the Ruia semi-final against Railways:

NORTH (dummy)	
♠	10 7 5 3 2
♥	8 3
♦	10 8 4
♣	K 6 3

WEST	EAST
♠ J 6	♠ Q 9 8 4
♥ K Q 10 4	♥ J 9 5
♦ Q J 7 5 2	♦ 8 3
♣ 5	♣ 10 8 7 2

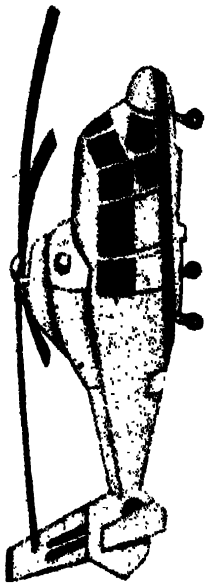
SOUTH	
♠	A K
♥	A 7 6 2
♦	A K
♣	A Q J 9 4

Sudhir, South, played in the optimistic contract of six clubs after West had overcalled two diamonds, vulnerable. A trump lead would have spelt doom but declarer got a lucky break when West, naturally enough, chose to lead the heart king.

South ducked the opening lead and won the diamond switch. On the actual lay-out, declarer could have afforded to cash all the side winners and a top trump in hand before embarking on a cross-ruff but it seemed risky for the diamonds could be 7-1. So, declarer cashed heart ace, ruffed a heart, came to the spade ace and played his last heart. Surprisingly it was West who turned up with the thirteenth heart and now declarer was forced to ruff with dummy's king.

It seems likely that declarer would now lose a trump trick as after the 4-1 split shows up dummy would have no entry or trump left to catch East's club ten. However, Sudhir, in his cool surgical style, analysed that West had to have at least six diamonds along with four hearts and looked likely to be short in clubs. So, at trick seven he led a trump from dummy and, going with the revised odds, finessed his nine (!) to land his for a well-deserved gain.

Santanu Ghose

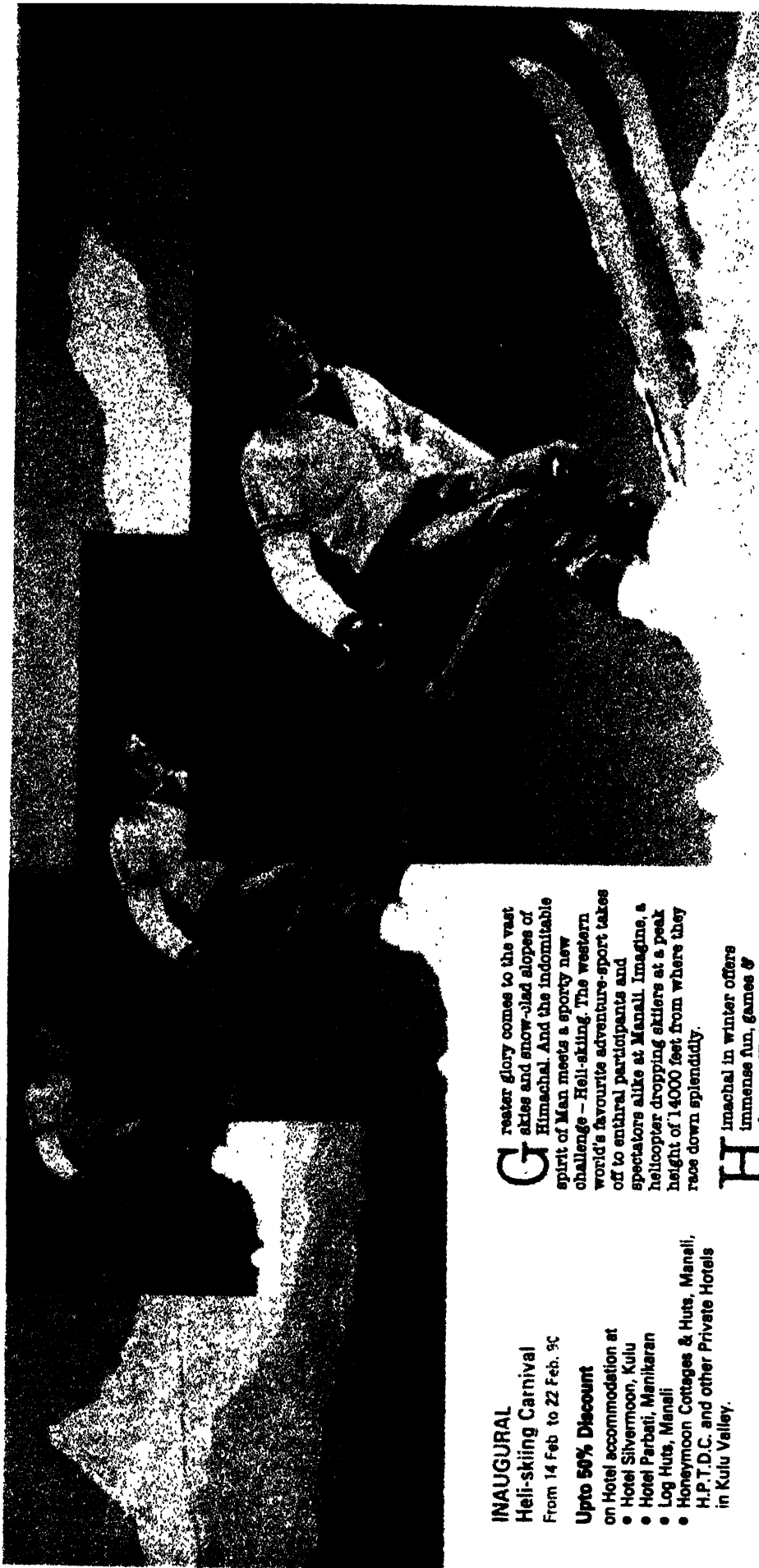


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MORE COM



IT'S the challenge of a lifetime. Many people ask me 'Why mess with history? Why invent a new mountain to climb?' The same question arose when I discussed my plans (to swim the 100m

butterfly at the 1992 Barcelona Games) with my wife Suzy, her father Herman Weiner and my dad (Arnold). They thought it was really weird, because of my reputation and the credibility I might lose. I said 'look, I did what I

did and it's done. If I go to Barcelona and I don't win, the Olympic Committee's not going to ask me to give back three gold medals because I've disgraced myself. Perhaps, it boils down to this: sure I'd love to win, that would

I'll tell you what though. It sure doe

EBACKS!

BY MARK SPITZ



be the ultimate. But is that really the 'ultimate' that would be expected of me at my age?

No, I think the ultimate is to make it to the Olympics. Imagine it. I'll be twice as old as the guys in the other lanes. Now, that would

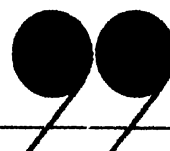
be something to compare with what I did in Munich. And if I don't make the US team that's OK too. As long as I go to the trials and make it to the finals. Then in my mind, unequivocally, there would never have been anybody my age to

go as far as I did. Maybe that's what I'm trying to prove. If it ends up that way, I'll be content.

I know there was a lot of controversy around me when I returned from Munich. But I didn't really have that hard a time. I was the

Spitz currently in training at the UCLA pool

a little of the spunk back into life



My reaction is 'Hey fellas, that's my event. I wa

Today he is a millionaire with an eight-year-old son Matthew and a beautiful wife Suzy



first Olympic athlete to get an opportunity to make a dollar. I didn't create it. It just sort of happened and I said, why not?

The big disappointment I was supposed to have felt was that apparently I was supposed to become the new Johnny Weissmuller—the swimming champion becomes a movie star. Well, for a start they were not doing Tarzan movies anymore and I never wanted to be an actor anyway. Maybe there was some disappointment in the eyes of the public that I didn't take that path, certainly not in mine.

I got into the California property market instead. I put a \$7000 down payment on a beach front condominium, rented it out for 18 months then sold it. With the profits I picked up two more. I picked it up real quickly and I liked it. It's like Monopoly with real money. Today I'm a millionaire businessman with a lovely wife and an eight-year-old son.

(NOTE Spitz is a partner in a firm that buys homes in Beverly Hills for \$2 to \$3 million, then tears them down and builds new 9000-square-foot homes that sell for \$5 to \$6 million. Last July he sold his women's sports wear company under a licensing agreement that guarantees him a share of the profits without having to be involved in day-to-day operations.)

It's working out well. The property company's on a roll, the clothing

Swimming it before you guys were born—literally'

business is making lots of money and I've got the free time to pursue this swimming craziness.

I eat well, no junk. I don't drink and I've never smoked or taken drugs. Oh, and for the past 17 years I've hardly ever swum and never taken regular exercise unless you count coaching Matthew's soccer and baseball leagues. Swimming is Matthew's fifth favourite sport, which is all right with me.

Believing that a comeback could only tarnish my reputation, I never really seriously considered the idea of a comeback. Three things changed my mind. First, my 100 butterfly record (54.27) is still competitive after all these years. It would have got me a gold at Montreal and Moscow. A bronze at LA and a final place at Seoul.

Then, I started to hear about remarkable happenings in America's Masters' Swimming programme. Former champions, men of 50 or more, were getting back into training and beating their best timings they achieved in their prime. I wasn't interested in swimming against the veterans but a return to the big stage looked a much better prospect. What was happening in the Masters over the past few years made me 100 per cent certain that in nine months or a year I would be swimming faster than I did in Munich.

Finally, last year, international rules on amateurism were changed to allow the



Spitz in his heyday

I would have swum much faster in 1972 if I hadn't swum so many darned events

kind of endorsements I had received after my retirement. The US governing body sent me a competitor's card. I was back in the fold.

I've talked to some experts and they all agree that I would have swum much faster in 1972 if I hadn't had to swim so many darned events. I set that 100m fly time on the fifth day of competition. I was already tired. Also I was trained as a distance swimmer so I would have the stamina for seven events even though they were all sprints. Now I'm training properly as a sprinter and I'm using

weights to improve my upper body strength. Both things will make me faster.

My sister sums up the way I feel. She doesn't know if I'll make the US team, but she thinks if I make the team, I'll win the gold. The most difficult of this is making the US swim team. The race for the gold medal is at the American trials, not Barcelona.

And I'm very serious about all this. And I don't think many of the young swimmers are laughing too much either. I've heard comments from some coaches who have boys

in the 100 butterfly. They're saying 'Oh, God, why did he have to pick my event?' My reaction is 'Hey, fellas, that's my event. I was swimming it before you guys were born—literally.'

I guess I know better than almost anyone what it takes to be motivated to win. I have that imprinted like a computer chip in my mind. Unfortunately it's a mind controlling a 39-year-old body and we're not quite sure how that body will react. I'll tell you what, though. It sure does put a little of the spunk back into life.

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS:
ASIA FEATURES

SHARRON'S NEW PLUNGE



per cent) can make a pretty good picture. And Sharron does too. She has recently modelled for a line of swimwear and the results are there for all to see.

It is 12 years since the long-legged blonde won two Commonwealth titles in Edmonton, Canada and retired.

Sharron's hopes for gold at the just concluded Commonwealth Games must have gone up in thin air. The real heroine at the pool was 15-year-old Australian teenager Hayley Lewis. Eat your heart out, Sharron.

BRTAIN's "Water babe" Sharron Davies has been making waves. No, not at Auckland,

certainly cos' the feedback there on her progress has been meagre. But sexy Sharron has taken to

the ramp. A girl whose body fat content is just 15 per cent (that of a very thin woman being 20

CHEER UP, GOWER

MISFORTUNE continues to catch up with David Gower. Hardly does he get over one problem that another lands up. Now he's gone and left Leicestershire after 15 years and joined Hampshire.

Gower who was left out of the team for the West Indies tour said: "I wanted pastures new.

"I have spent three months deliberating about my future. It has not been an easy decision. But I felt that I needed a fresh start and a new challenge. Hampshire fitted the bill I had letters from Leicestershire fans asking me to stay, but then you have to distance yourself, be hard and analyse things... I decided it was time to move."

On the personal front, Gower's problems mount. His 10-year relationship with girlfriend Vicky Stewart came to a sad end, with them putting a message in the papers terminating their relationship. Things should look up now for Gower... hopefully.





Nicklaus back with a putt

NICKLAUS COMES BACK

THE Golden Bear is 50 and far from finished. In fact, he will growl again. Who's this guy? Jack Nicklaus, the greatest golfer ever has put on a teeshirt, proclaiming on the front: "The world has survived..." and on the back: "Half a century of Jack Nicklaus."

Though he spent his birthday playing tennis with family and friends in Florida, his mind will be on golf in 1990. He's now free of back problems, into weight training and running. He can still make the world his own.

"I've set my goals and deliberately put a monkey on my own back," said Nicklaus. "I believe I can win another major. I want to be the best if it's golf or ping-pong." What's more, he's a granddad. However, he no longer has a sore head... though the chances of it being clear after his B'Day were slim.

OVETT'S RUNNING CLEAR

HAS been he may be, but Steve Ovett has managed to get his reputation intact. This happened after he was cleared from the controversy surrounding the payments row with Andy Norman which rocked British athletics last year. An ordered inquiry could not prove that Norman, a former policeman, made the offer of £25,000 to Ovett over the phone.

But the report had left no doubt that someone had contacted Ovett.

Ovett was delighted: "I'm delighted. I didn't think I stood a chance when you consider what I was up against. It is not up to me to say whether Norman should resign, that's up to the AAA and him."

Money or no money, it doesn't help your loss of form, does it Steve?



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THE moment I got wind of Muhammad Ali's arrival in Madras, I became desperate to meet him. My friends didn't seem to share my enthusiasm. They felt that seeing Ali as he is today would be a disappointment. But for me he was still 'The Greatest'. And he will always be so, no matter what.

My photographer friend and I sat in the lobby of the Park Sheraton hotel, as Ali finished his lunch upstairs in room 301. The 20 minute wait seemed like a lifetime. Nervous excitement had so enveloped me that the comfortable couch began to feel like a wooden bench. Finally, when the bell boy relieved us of our tension, the heart began to pound faster as we stepped into the elevator.

Ali walked out of the room and shook my hand. My hands were completely lost in his big palms. These were the hands that had done so much for boxing; that had rearranged so many faces in the ring, that had made Ali one of the most famous sportsmen ever.

Yes, his movements were slow, his speech slurred and whispered. But so what? He is still the champ.

I told him I wouldn't take too long with my questions (see page 44). He didn't seem to have heard me. As my friend closed in to click him he raised his fists in a classic boxing pose and jabbed at the air a couple of times. This scared my amateur-photographer friend so much that apart from a shy photo-

freewheeling

graph or two he had nothing to show from the brief encounter.

My first question was about how he got into boxing. Ali thought for a while, rolling his tooth pick and his mind's eye, did a quick rewind and said something about a bicycle in a whisper. Perhaps realising that I had not been able to hear what he had said he repeated the same, this time a little louder.

In the course of the interview, while I took a few seconds to refer to my notes, Ali surprised us by suddenly announcing, "Do you want to see some magic?"

I had read about Ali's prowess as a showman, magician and poet. And his present ill health has not completely sapped his wit and humour. When my local journal-

ist friends had visited him the day before they were thrilled to watch Ali step out of the car and, seeing a sizeable audience present to greet him, playfully run a comb through his jet black hair.

So, with the two of us looking on in anticipation, Ali stood up and asked us to watch his feet. For a moment I thought he was about to demonstrate his famous 'move and dance' technique. Instead he took both his feet off the ground for a fraction of a second. It wasn't anything great, but our polite applause brought a large smile to his face. This was Ali the showman, the man who had entertained a generation. Today, in his humility, he performed in front of a two-man audience. It also gave me

the impression that this man was completely at peace with himself. And there is no doubt that even now his wife is about him. The cheeky grin followed by the reference to women in the interview confirmed it.

For him it was boxing then and Islam now. But what remains constant is his devotion and dedication to the task. It is this intensity that makes greatness.

Islam is today the subject closest to his heart. The very mention of Islam seems to energise him and his voice gains a few decibels. The whisper is forgotten. His only wish now is "to serve Allah with all my heart." With this he proceeds to show me a handbag containing hundreds of attractively printed pamphlets on Islam. Everyday he spends 3-4 hours signing these pamphlets which propagate the faith. He carries them wherever he goes and when confronted by autograph hunters he simply writes their names on the pre-signed leaflets.

It is time to leave and I ask him where I could send him a copy of the interview after it is published. He writes his name and address a trifle haltingly in my note book. As we leave I recall what Ali had told a foreign writer not so long ago. "When I am gone, I want people to remember me saying, 'Ali took a few cups of love, one teaspoon of patience, one tablespoon of generosity and he spread it over a life-time and served it to each and every deserving person he met.'"

Rahul Chandawarkar interviewing 'The Greatest'



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Sportsworld

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT
BOXING
TROUBLE
FOR TYSON?



NAPIER TEST

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Out 12 short of what would have been a historic century, Sachin Tendulkar brought some excitement into a Test ruined by inclement weather and a poor pitch

SACHIN
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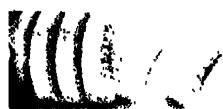
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10 Rain takes centre stage at Napier where the second Test between India and New Zealand was played. But in the brief spells of sunshine, there were flashes of brilliance and exuberance from the Indian batsmen. Prabhakar misses his maiden Test century by a mere five runs, Tendulkar by a little more. Ashok Kamath brings you up-to-date

44 The team shifts have all been made. Prost to Ferrari, Piquet to Benetton. And the new engines are still being honed for that extra bit of speed. With the Formula One season to kick off next month, we give you an extensive preview of the high-speed action to come

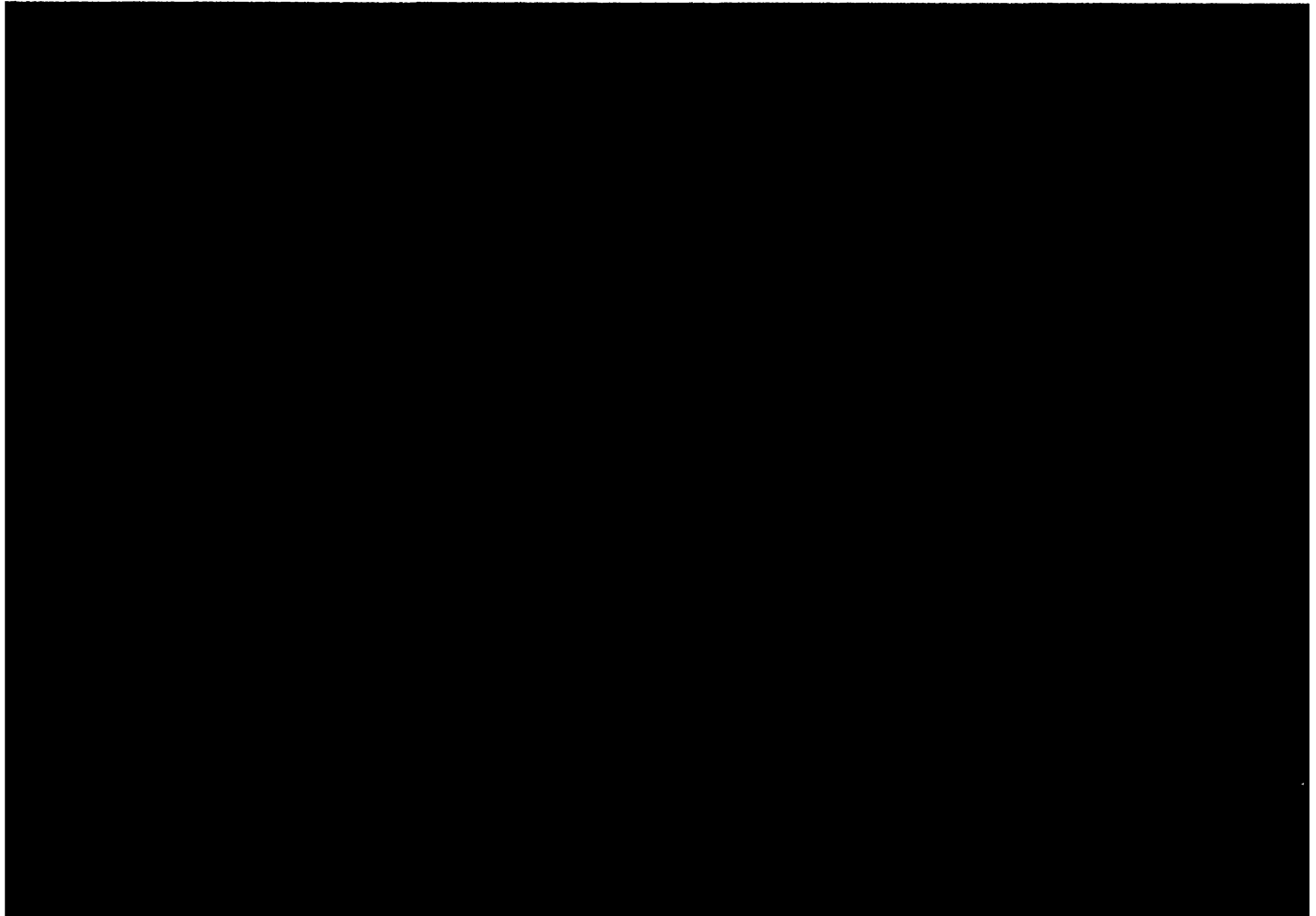
39 A 1-km swim, a 10-km cycle ride and a 5-km run all on the same day! Yes, that's what over 500 Bombayites threw themselves into one hot Sunday early this month. The first-ever triathlon in India attracted much attention for the sheer physical demands it placed on the participants. Robin Chatterjee turned down an offer to test his body and preferred to report

74 Has the king lost his crown? Tyson drops 'Buster' Douglas in the eighth round but a late count by the referee allows the challenger to get back on his feet. And then, the impossible—a thunderbolt from Douglas drops Tyson and the champion is counted out! Is the knockout legal? Or will Tyson get a rematch to defend his crown?



It's not the winning that's important, but the taking part...refusing to let the daunting challenge of the triathlon or the size of his fellow-competitors hassle him, this gutsy youngster gets ready to tackle the swimming course. Full report on the triathlon on Pg 39

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Pioneering innovations like

these don't come easy Puma have invested hundreds
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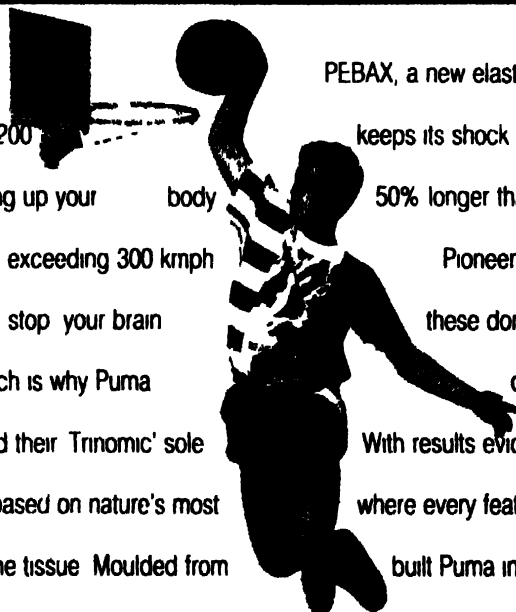
where every feature is a product of research All of which has
built Puma into a \$720 million empire, in 65 countries



Unique Trinomic sole reduces impact

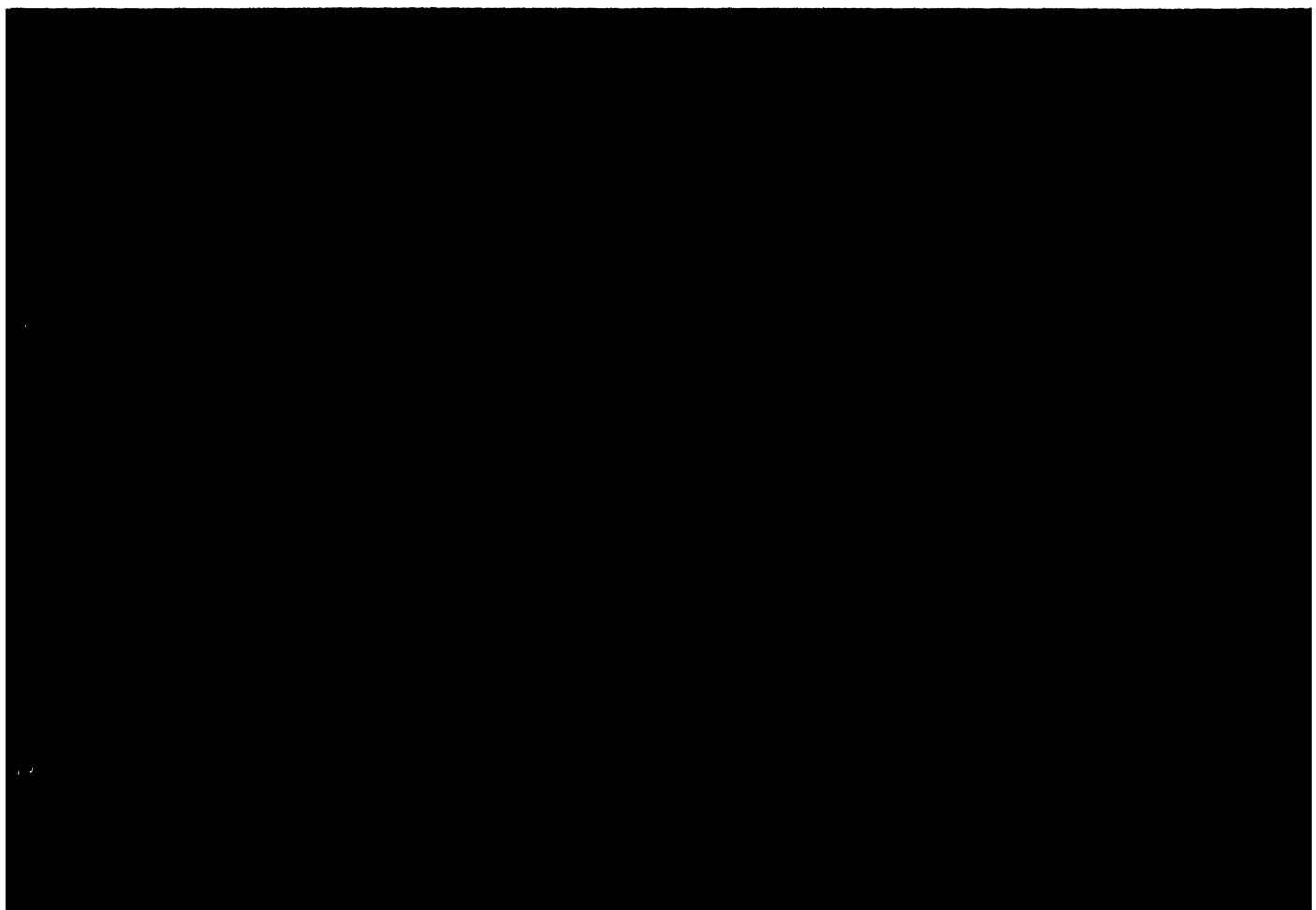


The Honeycomb structure that absorbs shock



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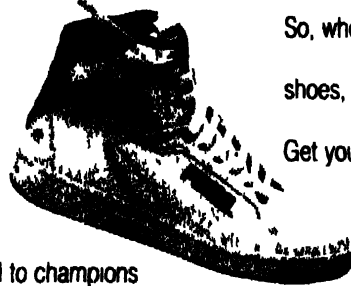
Naturally, Puma shoes have had a resounding impact on the world of international sport at every level. From weekend tennis to Wimbledon, schoolboy football to the World Cup and village athletics to the Olympics.

With athletes of every description



Moulded from PE-BAX for extra shock absorbent qualities.

having worn them. From the club level to champions



like Diego Maradona.

the current Australian cricket team and the British, Dutch and West German hockey teams to name a few.

Carona has introduced a range of these shoes in India.

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Get yourself a pair of Pumas.

It doesn't take much to appreciate them.

Just a brain.



A TRIUMPH OF GERMAN ENGINEERING.

AUCKLAND

SNAP



Clockwise (from left): Jane Fleming was a favourite of the crowd because she was from neighbouring Down Under. Her smile conceals a fierce competitor who won two gold medals. The first was for the heptathlon and the second was for the long jump. Here she receives the medal for the long jump event.

All smiles: Naturally, since they are not going empty-handed. Key Moreley is flanked by silver medalist Sally Gunnell (right) and Lesley Ann Skate. This was the award-winning ceremony for the 100m hurdles.

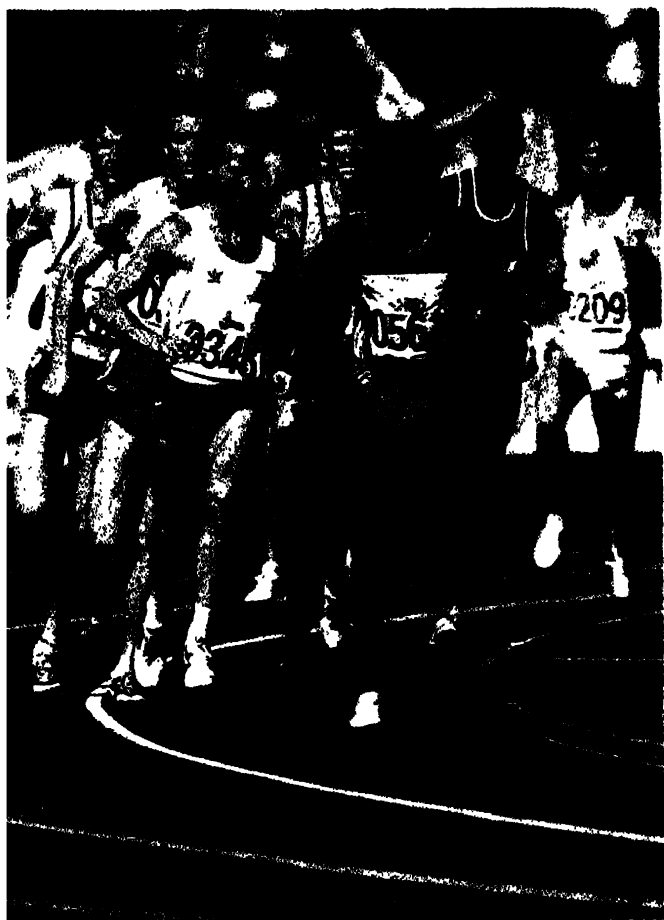
John Walker's last race...and he finished the race last. His Commonwealth Games wish remained unfulfilled.

Peter Elliot of Britain has a highly cautious look on his face as he half expects a Kenyan surge on the last lap. But that was not to be and finally, for the first time in his career, he wins the gold medal in the 1500m. Way to go Peter!

**PHOTOGRAPHS
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COMMONWEALTH GAMES

SHOTS





COVER STORY

Tendulkar got a fluent 88 while 'keeper Kiran More (inset) impressed with a knock of 73

WASHOUT!

Out 12 short of what would have been a historic century, Sachin Tendulkar brought some excitement into a Test ruined by inclement weather and a poor pitch. Ashok Kamath reports on the second India- New Zealand Test



Dilip Vengsarkar scored 0 after flying thousands of miles. Life's like that sometimes!

the series. Rain washed out Day One of the Napier Test without a ball being bowled and on Day Five, when there were quite a few people around who thought some play would have been possible as the rain stayed away, the players seemed reluctant to resume the admittedly pointless battle.

There was something farcical to the non-starting final day. The Test was called off around 2.30 pm because one end of the run-up stretch was considered too wet. The light conditions were marginal but the umpires could not order start of play because the previous evening they stopped play under similar lighting conditions. It will remain a mystery why John Wright, who was batting on 113, accepted the umpires' offer the previous evening and called off play when there were still 13 overs to be bowled on Day Four. Spinners Narendra Hirwani and Venkatapathi Raju were bowling, the wicket was playing easy as ever and yet Wright chose to call it a day 13 overs prematurely.

And when on the final day the light was just as

THE loss of the first and the last day of the second Test between India and New Zealand was a bigger blow to the touring team than the home team. The reason, is not hard to find: having won the first Test in Christchurch, New Zealand had taken a 1-0 lead and when the Napier Test was eventually abandoned as a draw, it became clear that the Kiwi record of not having lost a series at home in a long time would remain intact.

For the Indians, however, the weather-induced stalemate in Napier meant that Auckland in the last week of February would leave them with the option of only trying to square



Prabhakar's hint of dissent at the umpire's verdict won him a frown from Bodi as well as a 'shabash bete'!



Sachin Tendulkar
held on gutsily,
refused to be
tempted by the
cunning old fox

good (or bad) and at least two to three hours of play was possible in the afternoon the players were somewhat reluctant. Agreed it was pointless as a contest by then but that alone was not a mitigating reason for abandoning the match so early. Kapil for one was keen to get on with it but as Bishan Bedi, cricket manager, pointed out, the decision to restart play was entirely with the umpires. Steve Woodward and Brian Aldridge in this case.

With less than three playing days possible the Napier Test, not surprisingly, took its place in history mainly as a host of personal milestones. Sachin Tendulkar came within 12 runs of beating Pakistani Mushtaq Mohammed's record as the youngest Test centurion ever. Manoj Prabhakar scored a career best 95. Kiran More improved his personal best innings to 73 (from 58 not out). John Wright cracked his ninth Test century including his second in a row, and Danny Morrison picked up another successive set of five wickets in an innings.

Prabhakar's splendid effort got somewhat sidetracked because of the imminence of history being made by young Tendulkar. But apart from being the Indian topscorer, Prabhakar's innings really steadied the Indian boat after Richard Hadlee had trapped Woorkeri Raman leg before wicket and Sanjay Manjrekar had left, first hour after lunch. Mohammed



It will remain a mystery why John Wright, batting on 113, accepted the umpires' offer and called off play.

Azharuddin was there but he was not the epitome of comfort. The Indian captain was distinctly lucky to survive a caught at short leg appeal by Martin Crowe before he had scored. At five Azhar was dropped by Wright at mid-on.

It was under these circumstances that Prabhakar reached his second and most impressive Test half-century. Prabhakar has opened the batting in first class cricket before but it is not

exactly the same thing doing it in Tests. In Christchurch he was drafted in as Raman's opening partner in the second innings after Sidhu injured himself. He scored 40 impressive runs. Here in Napier he was the master working the ball square on the on side by delectably opening out the face of the bat driving powerfully and occasionally hitting above the heads of fieldsmen.

Prabhakar was most unfortunate to get a bad

decision when he was just five short of a most deserving century. An attempt to flick failed and the ball apparently clipped his thigh pad on its way to wicketkeeper Ian Smith off Hadlee. Umpire Aldridge upheld the noisy appeal and Prabhakar stood there briefly aghast, indicating half hopefully that the ball had not nicked his bat. The Delhi all-rounder's hint of dissent at the umpire's verdict won him a frown from cricket manager Bedi, even as he was congratulated with a shabhash. Manoj-bete on his return to the dressing room.

By the time Prabhakar left India were ashore after the dramatic first ball loss of Raman and the two-ball stay of Dilip Vengsarkar among other things. Manjrekar had gone taking his bat out of harm's way but a little too late, the faint touch carried to wicketkeeper Smith. Vengsarkar shaping to drive through covers, thin edged the ball to Smith's gloves. The catch made local lad Smith the tenth most prolific wicketkeeper in Test history.

Sachin Tendulkar played and missed a couple of times a little after his arrival at the crease at number six. In one particular over by Hadlee, who had made his Test debut even before the 16 year old Indian was born - tested him outside the off stump. But the whiz kid held on gutsily, refused to be tempted by the cunning old fox and set himself up for a truly remarkable innings.



Richard Nixon

Richard Nixon

hil

WHO'S THE DEADLIEST OF 'EM ALL?

ONE of the fascinating facets of cricket statistics is the sustained penetrative capacity of a bowler - his ability to keep up a high striking rate of wickets per Test match

To determine who figures in this category of records a minimum qualifying limit of 50 Test wickets has been set. This makes 192 bowlers eligible—56 representing England, 47 Australia, 21 West Indies, 20 India, 18 Pakistan, 15 New Zealand, 14 South Africa and one representing Sri Lanka.

Among these a select 15 have been able to sustain a striking rate of 5 or more wickets per Test. Only one of them, Richard Hadlee, is the lone currently-playing Test cricketer.

Malcolm Marshall of West Indies is just outside the qualifying striking rate with 4.93 (326 wickets in 66 Tests).

A point of interest among the 25 bowlers who have taken 200 or more wickets in Tests: only three have a striking rate of 5 wickets per Test—Clarrie Grimmett, Dennis Lillee and Richard Hadlee.

		Strike Rate (wickets per Test)	Tests	Wickets
1. S. Barnes	(Aus)	7.00	27	189
2. J. Ferris	(Aus/Eng)	6.77	9	61
3. T. Richardson	(Eng)	6.28	14	88
4. G. Lohmann	(Eng)	6.22	18	112
5. C. Turner	(Aus)	5.94	17	101
6. C. Grimmett	(Aus)	5.88	87	216
7. J. Saunders	(Aus)	5.64	14	79
8. 'Tich' Freeman	(Eng)	5.50	12	66
9. W. O'Reilly	(Aus)	5.33	27	144
10. H. Ironmonger	(Aus)	5.28	14	74
11. C. Blythe	(Eng)	5.26	19	100
12. F. Spofforth	(Aus)	5.22	18	94
13. R. Peel	(Eng)	5.10	20	102
14. D. Lillee	(Aus)	5.07	70	355
15. R. Hadlee	(NZ)	5.03	80	403

The record holders of the other five countries are:

4.93 M. Marshall (326 wickets in 66 Tests), 4.59 H. Tayfield (170 wickets in 37 Tests), 4.17 B. Chandrasekhar (242 wickets in 58 Tests), 4.15 Khan Mohammed (54 wickets in 13 Tests) and 3.54 Ravi Ratnayake (56 wickets in 22 Tests) representing West Indies, South Africa, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka respectively.

Figures updated to 7 February 1990

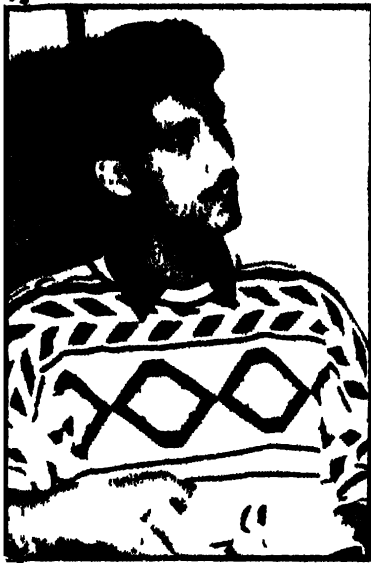
BY RAVI KANT SRIVASTAVA

PROFILE

Atul Wasson knows
he's got what it takes
to be in the team

I have bowled
against guys like
Martin Crowe
Mark Greatbatch
and Ken
Rutherford So
they are not exactly
new to me If I get
a chance for the
New Zealand tour,
I'm sure I can
come good





The Atul Wasson Story

YET ANOTHER 'WHO'S HE?'
IN THE INDIAN TEAM WHO
MIGHT BE HEADLINE
MATERIAL IN THE
NOT-TOO DISTANT FUTURE

I was born in a family of businessmen. I nurtured hopes of becoming an athlete—a long jumper. I didn't want to do anything else. But along came Kapil Dev and kids of my age just got hooked. Kapil made me change my career plans. I fell in love with cricket and got myself enrolled in Tarak Sinha's Sonnet school. 'Sir' has produced cricketers like Raman Lamba, Ajay Sharma, Bhaskar Pillai and the likes. The very first day he asked me to bowl fast. I obliged. That is how I have come to where I have.



THAT is in Atul Wasson's own words his baptism into cricket.

It is yet to take the dimensions of a rags to riches story, for Wasson has a long way to go before he has that tag attached to his name.

There are some who believe that this six feet three inches gangly 21-year-old has made it into the Indian cricket team on pure luck. Wasson vehemently disagrees.

"I look at it as worth getting a place in the national team to come. I put it as an achievement. I can top someone for a few days, years or even but not forever. It is easier to make a name for myself in the Test side rather than in the Delhi side. Because as far as the Indian bowling squad is concerned, having Kapil Dev, there is no one worth mentioning. And yes, Manu Prabhakar who only recently performed across the border. At times, I thought of leaving Delhi in order to play Ranji matches in other states. I even got an offer from the Mohammedan Sporting Club in Calcutta. On second thoughts, however, I realised it was easier to catch the selectors' eye from Delhi. Because these days Delhi plays more Ranji matches than

Shirking away from the Kiwi batsmen is not his cup of tea



You can't keep a good man down, so he's not really desperate

other states. They reached the finals most of the time during the Eighties.

Wasson then started concentrating on bettering his performances. In his first five zonal Ranji matches he captured 40 wickets. He got 10 wickets against the Services, 10 against Jammu and Kashmir, nine against Haryana, nine against Punjab and one against Himachal Pradesh in a match which saw only 30 minutes of play due to heavy rain.

This was only after his stupendous performance with the ball in the Irani Trophy finals last year. That match was basically designed to act as a trial for all those who were scheduled to go to Pakistan. Wasson got nine wickets and almost made the trip. Later, Raj

Singh told the press: "We thought of taking another fast bowler. I personally would have felt better if we had sent him to Pakistan but Srikanth asked for a batsman. So Raman Lamba was in." Lamba was lucky. Wasson was not.

Wasson owes credit for his sudden emergence to Delhi

Wasson has managed to retain his place in the Indian squad not because there are limited choices among the bowlers in the squad but, because he has made an impression

Ranji captain Madan Lal. A fan of Dennis Lillee and Kapil Dev, he says, "Madanbhai had taught me how to bowl in different situations. He is my guide." "My stint with English county cricket also helped me improve my bowling. I played for Morecambe in the Lancashire league in 1987. There were a number of Indian cricketers who played for this club. Ravi (Shastri), Gopal Sharma and Chetan (Sharma) also had a stint. I went on to break Dilip Doshi's record of 109 wickets in the Lancashire league by claiming 110 wickets. For the last two years, I played for Mersden Cricket club in the Yorkshire league. I have bowled against guys like Martin Crowe, Mark Greatbatch and Ken Rutherford. So they are not exactly new to

me."

These were his words before he left for New Zealand. A lot has happened since then. The point of discussion is primarily India's 10-wicket massacre against the Kiwis. Wasson has, however, managed to retain his place in the Indian team not because there is a limited choice among the bowlers in the Indian contingent but because he has made an impression.

As I left him, his words rang loudly in my ears.

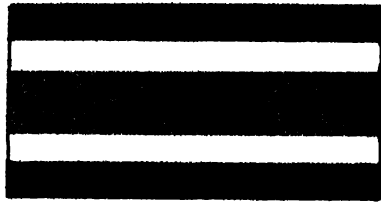
"I believe nobody can stop me. Yes, you can stop a man for a few days, years perhaps, but not forever. I am worthy of getting a place in the National team."

Reported by Manas Chakraborty. Written by Robin Chatterjee

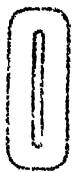
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PRITI RANJAN KARMAKAR

PHOTO OF THE WEEK





COSTA RICA



In the 16th of July 1989, Costa Rica, the second-smallest Central American Republic became the first team to qualify for the 14th World Cup in Italy! Real minnows of the World Cup, this is the first ever entry for this tiny state of 2,416,809 people.

Costa Rica is one of the most remarkable states of Latin America.

It has the highest adult literacy rate in the whole of Latin America, aided by perhaps the most advanced social welfare systems in the modern world. It is the only Latin American state to be relatively free of political turbulence, insurgency and guerrilla warfare, making it the most durable and democratic state in Central America. In President Oscar Rafael Arias Sanchez, Costa Rica has the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize winner! And, believe it or not, since 1948, it has had no armed forces!

Yet when it comes to soccer, it is way behind in the CONCACAF-controlled region of North America, Central America and the Caribbean. Baseball and basketball, like all over Central America, are just a shade behind in spectatorship, to soccer, the national game. But in the CONCACAF

(The Confederacion Norte-Centro-americanay del Caribe de Futbol) soccer championship, Costa Rica has a proud record. It finished as the champions in 1941, the inaugural year of the Central American & Caribbean Championship (renamed CONCACAF Championship in 1963). Became joint champions in 1943, and champions again in 1946, '48, '53, '55, '60, '61, '63 and '69. Its club, Saprissa, became the central zone winners of the Champions Cup in 1970

And after that...now 1990, it is big news!

Costa Rica is called "The Switzerland of Central America", a ruggedly and picturesque mountainous country, which dazzles all visitors.

Bordered on the east by the Carribean Sea, on the west by the Pacific, Panama on the south and Nicaragua on the north, almost all its life, political, economic, social and cultural, is staged in the Mesata Centrale, the central plateau (2000 square miles). San Jose, the

capital city at 4000 ft elevation is the hub. Half of the population, the centres of culture and government, four of the six major cities, and the bulk of the coffee industry are found on this charming landscape. And so are most of the professional soccer clubs...

Coffee, not bananas is the nation's major export commodity. In 1800 AD, Costa Rica (called 'The Rich Coast' by Columbus in 1502) became the first one in Central America to introduce coffee. Ever since, coffee, bananas,



meat, sugar, cocoa are the mainstay of life. And, the mainstay of professional and part-time pro soccer.

Soccer is played in all the seven provinces of Alajuela, Cartago, Liberia, Heredia, Limon, Puntarenas and of course, San Jose. With its overwhelmingly 'white' population (97 per cent), the soccer teams ethnic composition is also white, mainly of Spanish origin. Then German, Dutch, Swiss and black (in the Caribbean coast of Limon).

When the final round of the qualifications from the CONCACAF commenced on the 19th of March 1989, Costa Rica were found face to face against the United States of America,

Trinidad & Tobago, Guatemala and El Salvador. Mexico, the traditional bullies of the region were absent (suspended by FIFA). The United States then became favourites.

But when the contest began, Costa Rica lost its first game to Guatemala, 0-1. Gustavo de Simone, their Uruguayan coach was sacked. In came Marvin Rodriguez. On the 2nd of April in the return leg, it was revenge all the way with a 2-1 triumph. As the final rounds progressed, there was further drama. Guatemala used two coaches in its three games. El Salvador used three guys for four games!

On the 16th, they got the better of the United States, but got unstuck in the return, with a

similar margin of 0-1. That left them facing Trinidad's "Strike Squad" on May 28th for the first leg encounter. And got a shock. They drew 1-1! In the return, which was very tense, they prevailed by the narrow margin of 1-0! Galvanised, they crushed El Salvador by 4-2 in the away leg on 25th of June.

There is not much information on the Costa Rican soccer team. But it appears that, save exceptions, it will be the same that played the final CONCACAF qualifying rounds.

Marvin Rodriguez will manage this side. At goal, Gabelo Coneja will keep guard. In front of him it will be a defence lineup of Quesada,

Manager : Marvin Rodriguez
Colours : Deep red shirts, deep blue shorts, white stockings
Opponents : Group C to be played in Turin-Genoa, Brazil, Scotland and Sweden
Previous World Cup appearances : None

Meanwhile, the American favourites got bogged down, and were second on points. The Yanks were finding goal scoring very difficult. They drew against Trinidad & Tobago 1-1, a match which was theirs, allowing the Strike Squad to tie in the 88th minute. Then suspense reached the boiling point when winless El Salvador held them 0-0 in St. Louis! Now the Yanks 'had' to defeat Trinidad & Tobago in their last match. The latter only needed a draw to make the trip to Italy.

Thus, in the return leg at home, Costa Rica met El Salvador once again. And it was 1-0 in their favour. On the 16th of July. The Costa Ricans celebrated their first World Cup entry.

Meanwhile a civil war in El Salvador caused the FIFA to cancel their games against Guatemala. Leaving the final round incomplete.

Flores, Montero and Diaz. Marshalling the midfield will be Cayasso, Murchena, Chaviarra and either Jara or Hidalgo. Leaving a two-man striking line in Coronado, and either Flores or Soalano.

Costa Rica are facing the ignominy of being the most lowly rated side in Italy with the United States. With Brazil, Sweden and Scotland in their group in the Italian north of Turin and Genoa, experts are wondering just how many goals are they going to concede. Just how good are these Costa Ricans? All that can be said is that they will easily defeat India!

History's lesson in the World Cup is that even outsiders must never be underestimated by their opponents. Anyone doing so in Italy, deserves to be clobbered on the head!

By Pallab Muhury





SEBASTIAN COE

A PAGEANT ETCHED IN PAIN

SEBASTIAN COE is surely the greatest middle distance runner that Britain has produced. From the time he broke into the headlines in 1977 when he won the European Indoor championships in San Sebastian, it has been a long and illustrious career. A career that had its brilliant highs and tragic lows, a career that had been marred by glandular viral infections and muscle tears; a career which saw Britain emerge as the supreme middle distance running nation from the late seventies to the mid-eighties.

Sebastian Coe is a frail man. He has a look of compassion about him but that is a deceptive facade. Underneath that diffident exterior, there lurks a sharp tactical brain, able to run off his rivals through sheer technique. He also has the heart of a champion. Time and time again, during his career, he has been able to dig inside and bring forth new levels of excellence. For example: prior to the Los Angeles Games in 1984, he had been completely

written off by the British media. They said that he had been ill, he was out of training for months and there was no hope whatsoever of him winning a medal, let alone, a gold.

But, in the fiercely contested 1500m where his rivals included Steve Scott, Steve Cram and Steve Ovett, Coe won with a brilliant finishing run. He raised a finger signifying 'up yours' to the British press having answered them in the best possible manner with a gold medal.

SEBASTIAN COE was born in 1956 in Chiswick, West London, the eldest child of Peter and Angela Coe. They were a middle class family. Father Peter Coe was an engineer who worked in a cutlery factory while his mother Angela was a former actress. He was a very nervous and sensitive child who suffered from nervous eczema and asthma. He started running when he was 12 years old and by the time he was 14, his father took over as his coach.

Peter Coe is short and bespectacled and intense, and possessing an engineer's logic, planned his son's career meticulously. Sebastian later said that since his father did not have any idea of coaching, he had never run in a race ever in his life, he had no mental limits. He said that anything was possible and this belief was inculcated deep into the son.

Sebastian Coe progressed steadily. He won the schools championship, the AAA Junior Championships

A monumental athletics career came to an end at the Commonwealth Games at Auckland recently



and then on to the major title in the European championships. But it was only in 1979 that he really became an international star and gave the hint of the true genius that he was. In one remarkable 40 day period, he lowered three world records. In Oslo on 3rd July, he broke the 800m world record. On 17th July he broke the mile record again in Oslo. In 15th August he broke the 1500m world record in Zurich. This was an awesome performance, a tribute to the months of harsh winter work that he did in the mountains following his father's car.

By 1980 worldwide attention was focused on the middle distance events. Furthermore Steve Ovett's new 1500m world record enhanced the possibility of a fearsome rivalry between him and Coe before the Games. Athletic experts differed, believing firmly that Coe would win the 800m and Ovett the 1500m gold at the Moscow Olympics. But that was not to be.

In one of the most surprising results of the Games, Ovett took the 800m gold. Coe barely managing silver.

Coe was shattered. It was an astonishing loss and father Peter Coe couldn't resist reprimanding him in front of the entire media. "You ran like a bloody idiot." The days after were cruel. A life's dream had gone so quickly, now only the 1500m was left and Ovett was in awesome form. But it was now that the real champion in Coe emerged. He



The sequence of that great race, the 1500m at Moscow, which Coe ultimately won

collected himself, went for long walks, psyched himself and on the day of the race, Sebastian Coe was determined that he would give everything to win that elusive gold.

The race began and it was a slow first lap. (61.3 secs). Coe was lying third, Ovett behind him in fourth place. And the man in front was Jurgen Straub of the GDR, a runner whom Coe and Ovett didn't take into their calculations. At the end of the second lap, things changed dramatically. From a pedestrian race, it blossomed into one of

the great races of all time.

Straub suddenly poured in a brilliant burst of speed and moved ahead. A gap of two, then four metres built up. Coe immediately realised that Straub was going for broke; he realised that Straub was sacrificing his final kick in order to kill the opposition. But Coe also realised that if he didn't respond, it would be impossible to catch up. So he accelerated and moved in quickly behind Straub. Ovett had understood this gambit, and was now lying third.



All pretense and waiting had been thrown to the winds. The race had been thrown wide open. They ran the third lap in 54.6 secs, an electric pace.

But up in the stands, Peter Coe heaved a sigh of relief. He knew, that when it came to throwing a punishing home-stretch kick, there was nobody to match his son. He felt that the race was as good as over.

The bell rang for the last lap and Coe could detect the first signs of Straub wilting. Now it was time that he made his move. 180 metres away from home, Coe

gave a semi-kick which took him past Straub. Now he was out in front, the wind in his face and the stadium on its feet.

Coe was running alone. And away. Ovett was still behind Straub when Coe looked back but that did not appease him. The race had been run at such a blistering pace that now only the hours of conditioning would help an athlete. This was unknown territory. All three of them had never been here before and nobody knew what was going to happen. Coe put in another semi-kick when he neared the bend and

there was fear in him now. He wasn't sure whether Ovett had left in him that electrifying finish he was famous for. And so Coe for good measure sprinted harder.

The stadium again erupted and then there was only 20 metres left. Then ten, then five, then three, then two, then one... Sebastian Coe had become the 1500m Olympic champion and it was a magnificent performance. The last eight hundred metres was the fastest he had even run in his life

AFTER that, Coe continued to compete

but he was laid low by glandular illnesses and viral infections that forced him to miss the World Championships in 1983. In 1984, he returned to the Olympics in Los Angeles. And in true championship style: retaining his 1500m title but losing the 800m to Brazilian Joaquim Cruz.

In 1986, he won the European championships in the 1500m and 800m, but his eyes were fixed on winning an unprecedented third 1500m Olympic gold medal at Seoul.



The look of triumph and relief is etched deeply on Coe's face. On the left is Steve Ovett who won the silver while Jurgen Straub was a struggling third



Steve Ovett: a great competitor

But for the first time in his life perhaps Sebastian Coe made a serious tactical error. Or should one say a training error?

He had decided on some high altitude training in St Moritz and returned to England far too late to acclimatise. In fact, he returned barely a week

prior to the selection trials in Birmingham. It was a huge error and he paid for it. In the trials he came a disastrous fourth and was eliminated from the team. His inability to qualify caused an enormous furor, with even Coe at one juncture actually asking to be included in

the team on extraordinary grounds. Put even for me a like Coe, Britain does not break its rules. And so he was deprived or rather deprived himself of what he believed would be a glorious end to his career.

But the Seoul Olympics were not the final option. The 1990

Commonwealth Games at Auckland were left. Coe had never competed in a Commonwealth Games before due to illnesses, and since he believed he had a chance the temptation proved too great. But fate decreed he would not succeed again.

In the 800m he was destroyed by the fast and furious Kenyans and came a dismal sixth. And then further tragedy struck when a severe cold and swollen glands forced him to withdraw from the 1500m. It was the hardest decision I have ever made. He is a superb athlete, a champion, but he was for me only a champion. I am his friend.

And so quite abruptly at that point in his career, he was forced to withdraw from the 1990 Commonwealth Games.

POLITICALLY, Sebastian Coe is a sportsman. He is a Conservative MP, but he is not a politician. He is a sportsman because of his healthy disbelief in his crowded condemnation of drug in sport.

Coe plans to stand for the Falmouth constituency and if he wins, then he could possibly even be a Sports Minister. He laughs away the suggestion, saying that he is much too young for that. But as a Tory spokesman said, He has an experienced mind, an assertive personality and a dislike of fudging things. He takes situations head on and is used to getting things done.

What then is Coe's

fundamental philosophy of life which he will propagate as a politician?

He says in reply: The basic freedom of the individual to develop his or her own talents within the framework of the law and with a little hindrance from the State as possible.

This is sheer
hatred and surely
it is her that once a
man after that her
heart

S. J. Tuck has been
writing about
the film

wooded and won June
But he is not really a
ladies man. Complains a
member of the fair sex
He has no sex appeal
Says another. He takes
himself far too
seriously

And so the athlete has faded away. But there is no doubt that in the years to come he will pour as much energy and passion into the sport as he gave to his running.

Shovlin Sebastian



HARINGEY

6

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At the same time with the happy Athlete, the noble and the company of these Londoners who treat him as any run of the mill guy. His income from athletics and endorsements has made him a multimillionaire. He has a house in Twickenham where he lives with a woman named Jane. In this another story of how

**Coe after missing
selection
for the Seoul
Olympics, during the
Trials in Birmingham**

Sweet Win For

FOR Salgaocar Sports Club the 1989-90 football season has not been an entirely satisfying happy one. They began well by defeating all the three big Calcutta teams—East Bengal, Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan Sporting at Calcutta in May last year to retain the Federation Cup.

Thereafter, however, their fortunes took a dip. First they fared disastrously in the Asian Cup for champion clubs at Moscow. Then they had disappointment in the IFA and the Jawahar Lal Nehru Centenary Cup, besides the failure to win either the Goa Senior League or the Goa Super League.

Some redemption came in the Sant Nagesh Trophy, when the fans' favourites, captained by Abhinav Chakravarti, Kingiadesh. And now they are won their first trophy since May, and a coveted one at that in the Rovers Cup with solitary goal victory over arch-rivals Dempo Sports Club in the first ever all-Goa final in the tournament's 98-year history.

Bruno Coutinho's splendid opportunism helped Salgaocar have their name inscribed on the handsome cup for the first time, the only other occasion they made it to the final in 1985, they played far below the form they had

shown till then and went down 0-2 to Mohun Bagan. The junior international who strove hard to help his defence besides being up front for linking up with the midfielders and strikers, pounced on the ball as Dempo defender Nazario Coutinho and Mathew Rodrigues waited for each other to clear it, moved away as Rodrigues tried to recover and hit a searing shot past Anthony Cardozo into goal.

That shot was one of the good things seen in the final, one of the poorest in memory with both teams surrendering the ball to the opposition through poor control and frequent mispasses. And most of the time the passes attempted were of not more than five or ten yards.

In the circumstances Salgaocar should thank Bruno for capitalising on the lapses of the two Dempo defenders. And since the Dempo forwards were being good, three sitters after the interval with Chuba Moneka, a Nigerian, and Baptiste Fernandes being the culprits.

Neither Salgaocar nor Dempo, who had won the Cup in 1974, 1978, 1979 and 1986, had indicated in their quarter-final league games and the semi-final that their confrontation in the final would yield football of a high level. Both teams would have to inject new blood, get better at sustaining the



art of setting up plays and also observe certain basic tenets to regain the status they had enjoyed in the '70s and '80s.

Salgaocar, of course, could point to the loss of regular key men in Savio Madeira, Mariano Dias and Hercules Gomes among others as a contributory cause to their fall. They, of course, also shaped a

little better than the rest of the Calcutta scene.

But that should not be a consolation to Salgaocar. They have a younger team than Dempo, and in Bruno Coutinho a striker of great industry and promise. Roy Barrett and Valentine Fernandes, the younger brothers of Emeka, were not wanting in effort. The midfield and the defence

Salgaocar



Salgaocar and Dempo would have to inject new blood, get back to mastering the art of setting up plays and also observe certain basic tenets to regain the status they had enjoyed in the '70s and '80s

defence were not put to severe test in any match, for no team had a midfield or attack to dominate and penetrate. Dempo progressed to the final largely due to their experience. And this was most marked in midfield, where veteran Herbert San, former India skipper, Mauricio Alfonso and former junior international Thomas Kushboo had

their moments. But their deep defence was suspect and their attack not sharp as in the past. Of the two losing semi-finalists, Keltron Sports Club, the Cannanore district champions, were a pacy outfit. But their lack of experience and inadequate control of most of their players cast doubts on their coming up trumps

The Salgaocar defence retreat to cover against the advancing Ajith of Keltron (inset): The happy Goan team with the Rovers Cup

against a team that can vary play. Yet their linkmen, A. M. Ajith and Mohammed Saleem, showed promise.

The other semi-finalists, Indian Telephone Industries, of Bangalore, lacked the consistency to be rated as strong contenders. Thomas had one or two good matches in midfield, but Rozario Estalero, Munyappa and Romie Estalero were all off colour. ITI suffered somewhat from the non-availability of two fine young forwards, Sarvanar and Manohar, who left with the Indian team for the Maldives.

Despite having reputed players in Savio Madeira, Chandrakant Naik, John Araujo, all internationals, Hercules Gomes and Mariano Dias, MRF failed to fulfil expectations. Better were the other Goa team, Salcete. This youthful outfit had to come

through the pre-quarterfinal stage and play five matches in ten days. But they showed appreciable enthusiasm, energy and never-say-die spirit. Players to impress in their ranks were linkmen Inacio Vargas and Albert Coloaco and forwards Philip Crasto, Domingo Vaz and Romaldo Gomes.

K.B. Karan

Move To Declare The Big Three Professionals

T

He Western India Football Association and the Goa Football Association are among the five or six members of the All India

Football Federation who will move for the Big Three of Calcutta (Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting) to be declared professional clubs. The provocation obviously is the demand of the three clubs for

match fees to take part in the Rovers Cup in Bombay and the Bunderkar Cup at Madras.

It will be recalled that Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan Sporting had agreed to take part in the Rovers Cup. Both had sought enhanced terms. The WIFA representative who was in Calcutta for the AIFF general council meeting on the eve of the final of the Uthmaniyah Sheikh Centenary Cup had told his representatives that only a slight increase in match fees terms could be given. The clubs had given their word to participate.

But soon after both Bagan and Mohammedan SC wanted not only the slight increase in all war (but also) fees at the rate of Rs 25,000 per match in the quarter final league, Rs 10,000 for the semi-finals and Rs 60,000 for the final. Thus if they made it to the final, each would have to be paid Rs 75,000 for the three

matches in the quarter final pool, Rs 40,000 for the semi-final and Rs 60,000 for the final. A total of Rs 1,75,000. Add this to the rail fare, daily allowances and medical bills, and each team would have cost the WIFA between Rs 2.5



A midfield scramble between East Bengal and Mohammedan SC in the Durand quarterfinals

lakhs to Rs. 3 lakhs. If all three teams had been entertained, the WIFA would have had to fork out Rs. 8 lakhs at the least.

But, going by the attendances at the tournament, the WIFA would

Bagan keeper Debashis Mukherjee foils a Chibuzor attempt in the Durand Cup. Emeka and Prasanta Saha look on



have ended deep in the red had they consented to the demands of the Big Three. Not that the absence of these Calcutta teams helped the WIFA break even. But the payments to the teams that did play were far less taxing, and the WIFA were able to meet them from the funds accumulated from leasing the grounds behind the stands on the north, south and east during the year for weddings. Yet Salcete, who were knocked out after the quarter-final league, had to ask their manager to stay back for five days to collect dues.

The WIFA, with the support of AIFF members like the GFA, aver that their clubs are amateurs, and as such cannot charge fees for playing a match. They insist that if the Calcutta clubs desire match fees they should declare themselves as professional clubs, like some of the foreign teams that have taken part in the Nehru International Gold Cup and the Nehru Centenary Cup.

But the WIFA's case is weakened somewhat by East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting, as well as Federation Cup champions Salgaocar, having been paid Rs. 25,000 as fees per match in the Nehru Centenary Cup. However, it is also learnt that

the payment of match fees was not sanctioned by the AIFF, it had been paid by the organising committee of the Nehru Centenary Cup.

Again, the WIFA point out that match fees are different from incentive or prize money that is paid at various stages of the Federation Cup and also to the winners of tournaments like the Durand in Delhi. Match fees, in a manner of speaking, put no onus on the teams, apart from taking the field. They do not oblige the teams to turn in a performance of a high level commensurate with their demands.

Therein lies the rub. At least for the organisers. Because the displays of our club teams, including those from Calcutta, have been so much below par that the paying customer is loathe to queue up. And the shortfall at the gates would have been further magnified by the heavier outlay

on the Calcutta teams.

The trend of falling attendances is alarming. Even the presence of foreign teams—Olimpia of Paraguay, Gimnasia Esgrima de la Plata of Argentina, Lyngby Boldklubben of Denmark, Metalist Kharkov of the Soviet Union, Zambia's national team—did not prove enough of an attraction of fill even half the 1,20,000 capacity Salt Lake Stadium in Calcutta on any day during the Nehru Centenary Cup. But the daily live telecasts were a boon to the organisers, because they were able to secure hoardings to be put all round the ground.

But where there is no live telecast, the organisers have little hope of getting this revenue from hoardings and other advertisements, which make up a substantial amount. And one reason for the absence of telecasts, even of recorded capsules, is the poor standard of play.

And for this the teams are directly responsible, particularly those who could be branded professional for their demands. The clubs should realise they must raise the quality of their play and be worth the price they demand.

K.B. Karan

But, going by the attendances at the tournament, the WIFA would have ended deep in the red had they consented to the demands of Calcutta's Big Three

A Truly Allround Team

THE ten wicket defeat at Lancaster Park, Christchurch had hurt the boys. This was evident from their practice session at Napier. It went on and on for over five hours with manager Bishan Singh Bedi turning his arm over for nearly two hours. It was not clear why he was doing this because New Zealand does not have a slow left arm bowler in their ranks.

More than manager Bedi, it was the presence of non playing manager A W Kannadikar which intrigued me. No he was not sitting in the comforts of the pavilion. AWK was actually on the field running hard, trying to intercept the drives of the Indian batsmen. Occasionally he also dived, soiling his flannels. Yes the non playing manager was in flannels and was sporting the England made sweater worn by all the players.

The practice session finally ended and Bedi went ahead with his usual press conference. Skipper Azharuddin who was also present kept quiet and nodded occasionally. I approached AWK.

"Well fielded, I began. 'I never knew you ever played cricket. It's always good for the morale of the team when the non-playing team manager turns up for practice. I don't think it's done elsewhere."

A W Kannadikar was still huffing and



puffing. He rolled up his trouser leg and displayed a couple of bruises and shook his head sadly. "I don't know how I got into such a situation," he said. "By the time we leave New Zealand, I may become as extinct as the Kiwi."

"Oh, come off it," I laughed. "It was so thrilling to see you chase the ball with such vigour and enthusiasm! How did Bishan get you to join the practice session?"

AWK shrugged. "Okay, rub it in," he snarled. "I was oversmart and am paying the penalty for that."

I looked at him without understanding.

"Don't you remember the days when the players vs the Board controversy was at its peak?" he asked. "It was then I wrote to retired players like Sandeep Patil and Sunil Gavaskar to come out of retirement and prepare to play for the country again."

"Oh, yes, I remember that," I said. "And Sandeep did oblige you. Didn't he? He announced he was ready to play for India, if selected."

AWK nodded. "Sunil, of course, would not oblige me," he said ruefully. "But the offshoot of all that is one

fine morning, I get a letter from Raj Singh Dungarpur asking me to come out of retirement and be prepared to assist the team, if such a need arose."

"My God!" I exclaimed.

"I never knew this."

"I am telling you," snapped AWK. "It appears that Bishan and the selection committee suffered a loss of face because it became necessary to send for Dilip Vengsarkar. They have to eat their words on the so-called Team of the 1990s and all that rubbish."

"That's all right," I said, "but that does not explain the letter sent to you by Raj Singh."

"They want to make the recall of Vengsarkar the exception and not the rule," explained AWK. "If some of our players are injured, they are not going to call for replacements. Bishan will play and who knows, I may also get a chance."

"But have you ever played cricket?" I asked. "I mean, weren't you a judge or something like that?" That does not qualify you to go out there and face Richard Hadlee."

AWK covered his face with his hands. "Don't I know that?" he mumbled. "Raj Singh has an answer to that also. He argues that if someone like him can be the chairman of the selection committee, people like me can play cricket for India. How can I refute such an argument?"

QUESTIONS

1 He was a member of the 1952 cricket team which played against Pakistan. He scored a hundred on debut and ended his Test career with an average of above 60. Name him.

2 This Russian gymnast spent torrid years in a Nazi concentration camp. But he returned splendidly to take the allround title in the Olympic. Who is he?

3 A street in Munich is named after which famous Indian hockey player?

4 This table tennis player from India was declared the Best Player in the Junior Asian Table Tennis Championships a few years ago. Can you name him?

5 Going back by a few thousand years, this Roman king participated in all events of the Olympics and won all of them because he was the only competitor. Who was he?

6 Who is the first wicket keeper to score a double century in Test cricket?

7 An American athlete accompanied Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie in the song 'We are the World'. Who was he?

8 Which Indian bowler played for Somerset?

9 Which American winner of the 200m sprint in the Olympics

YOUR RATING-TEST!

BELOW 4 Read sports won't more regularly
BETWEEN 5 AND 9 You probably do read but forget a lot.

ABOVE 9 You're a sports buff.

ALL 15 Stop the next sports quiz.

Note: Give yourself a point for each correct answer.

raised his fists during the national anthem as a symbol of protest against racism in the USA?

10 Which deathlete with the surname of a famous scientist won a gold medal in the Olympics and also starred

in a film 'Can't Stop the Music'?

11 Which foreign cricketer appeared in the film 'Around the world in eight dollars'?

12 Which Pakistani cricketer captained the 1989 world cup team?

PPP ticket?

13 The inclusion of a Catholic into the Protestant Football club of Glasgow Rangers recently caused an uproar. Who was the controversial footballer?

14 He was one of the greatest chess players. Born in 1841 in England, he developed into a master of the end game and was nicknamed 'Black Death'. Name him.

15 What is the nationality of the Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobelaar?

ANSWERS

- 1 Deepak Shodhan
- 2 Victor Chukarin
- 3 Roop Singh
- 4 Vasanth Bharadwaj
- 5 Nero
- 6 Taslim Arif of Pakistan
- 7 Willie Banks
- 8 Dilip Doshi
- 9 Tommy Smith
- 10 Bruce Jenner in the 1976 Montreal Olympics
- 11 Frank Worrell
- 12 Sarfraz Nawaz
- 13 Maurice Johnston
- 14 Joseph Blackburne
- 15 Zimbabwean

This quiz has been compiled by **RAGHAVENDRA BHAT**
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WORLD CUP HOCKEY, LAHORE

If schoolchildren at Lahore's National Stadium could chant something — as devastating as that, one can only imagine the pressure the Indian team is playing under **Andy O'Brien** reports on the Indian team's problems—both on and off the field

PERHAPS it was only right that Lahore, Pakistan played host to the seventh edition of the ultimate hockey tournament in the world. Looking eagerly to grow into a big time spectator and prime time television sport, hockey could not have picked a better place to assemble. Yet astonishingly, this was the first time Pakistan—who conceived the very idea of the tournament and donated the trophy—had the opportunity of holding this event. And only they could have done it.



as they have. For in this Islamic nation hockey is a second religion. Blasphemous as this may sound, it is the truth.

No other nation or people would have given the game and all those associated with it who have gathered here so much cognizance. Back home in all the eleven other participating countries, hockey is merely an also-ran sport. Here it is a winner.

So Pakistan's Garden City geared up for this tournament just as any other city prepares for an Olympic Games. But like most Olympic Games, this short tournament too was marked by political stigma. And obviously the Indian team was at the receiving end.

Their shirt-slings on the field apart, Pargat Singh and his men

had their share of trouble off it too. One would reckon that the time they spend in monotonous and arduous training camps would mean that most of the team did not truly comprehend the complexities of the sensitive political balance the country they represent and the host nation were involved in. The Lahore experience has perhaps enlightened them to the realism of the circumstances.

While the rest of the passengers of Pakistan International Airlines flight PK 271 from Delhi to Lahore on February 10 sat snug in the aircraft, the Indian team stood huddled together in the secret lounge receiving last-minute instructions. Not from coach M. F. Gaikwad but from two senior officials of the Home Ministry.

They were given a briefing on how to deal with security problems in Pakistan. They were told that they could not leave the premises of their hotel, accept gifts or speak to strangers and should not react to any form of harassment that they might come across. In fact one of the officials even secretly travelled to Lahore with the team.

Exaggerated as these restrictions may sound, there is no denying that they were essential for the security of the team because the situation especially on the first few days of the tournament was indeed tense. The Indian team got a feverish reception in the opening hours of their stay. The astro turf practice ground adjoining the National Stadium where the Indians practised the afternoon after their arrival was practically surrounded by machine gun-carrying guards. And he crew it turned out would have put to shame the attendance at a Ramji trophy final. Their stint over the Indian players parked their car and walked towards their transport. It was as if the signal had sounded. A group of college students raised slogans shouting intensely, 'Kashmir Zindabad', 'Kashmir banegaa Pakistan', 'Hindustan hai hai' and 'Hum hain ke rahenge azaadi'.

In the course of the next twelve days, these slogans were not become almost second nature to us. Even the young school children brought to the ground on the day that India lost to Argentina had something anti-Indian to say. Indian team hai hai. They probably genuinely felt it because in the very next match between Australia and France they shouted in English,

'We must confess, Australia is the best. Or perhaps they were schooled in what to shout. You never know.'

In spite of all the anti-Indian sentiment prevalent here, and there is no denying that, a Sikh colleague seems to be a popular hero here. The young students who shouted slogans at the practice ground approached him for an autograph saying,



Police break up an anti-Indian rally in front of the Indian Consulate. The issue was on Kashmir.

Inshaallah Khalistan azad hogee Obviously they were under the impression that like them every Sikh too has anti Indian sentiments

In fact just as the Indian team seems to be the most unpopular bunch, my Sikh colleague is hailed and welcomed even as we walk the roads of this beautiful city Disregarding his own sentiments the locals here feel that sardari is also fighting for azadi from India

Midway through the tournament the Dutch press contingent here got whiff of a story that India had second thoughts about coming for the tournament led on probably by rumours that the Indian team's arrival two days late was because they were in fact planning on not making it all

Perhaps on hindsight India should not have come to Lahore after all Neither were their on the field achievements or off the field problems worth the sweat

The question being asked is how much will the pressures of the political problem affect the performance of the team With the risk of it being labelled an excuse one would say that the severe constraints that the boys were put under adversely affected their morale to some extent

For players who have been locked up for months in the rigours and discipline of coaching camps a trip (even if it means a taxing international tournament) is a welcome break from routine But if one is constantly harassed and compelled to stay within the four walls of a hotel room the frustration can be immense

And to those who would rather look at this as an excuse for the Indian performance I ask 'what would have happened if the Indian team took a stroll across to the Liberty shopping area one evening after a game? Only those who are experiencing the situation here can imagine the chaos and danger that would have resulted in

Grim as all this may sound it would be unfair if one failed to appreciate the efforts of the

FOR WANT OF A COACH...

IT has finally come to this Disillusioned and disheartened, Indian hockey is now ready to face the ultimate humiliation that of hiring a foreign coach to train the national team!

The tremors started prior to the Lahore World Cup With the national hockey team still languishing in the doldrums, the final straw was chief coach M P Ganesh's showdown with the IHF bigwigs over the tracksuits supplied to the players Ganesh felt the tracksuits were of an inferior quality and instructed his players not to accept them When called by IHF President K Prasad to discuss the issue Ganesh further stirred the hornet's nest by landing up with his entire team in tow!

An infuriated Prasad singled out Ganesh as the chief culprit and raved 'A new chief coach will be appointed for the Indian team if the team does not perform well in Lahore' Ganesh, not one to take things quietly apparently hit back by resigning, preferring to end his association with Indian hockey after this World Cup instead of after the Beijing Asian Games as specified by his contract

Now, after India's losses against Argentina and France - and looking certain to fight for the last four spots Ganesh had more or less lost all hope of hanging on to his job A Dutch journalist who took a ride on the Indian team bus told of Ganesh sitting in anger and even crying openly Sources in the Indian hockey administration had hinted that the IHF and the Sport's Authority

India's poor show at Lahore might be a blessing in disguise for now the powers that be in Indian hockey will surely gun for a foreign coach

of India's core committee', which looks after the technical aspects of the Indian team had given Ganesh an ultimatum Deliver now or you're sacked

India's poor show at Lahore might be a blessing in disguise for now the powers that be in Indian hockey will surely gun for a foreign coach Names that have come up included West Germany's Horst Wein and Holland's present coach Hans Jorritsma and current manager Joost Bellart While Wein's name was apparently not met with great enthusiasm in Indian hockey circles because he's known to be quite a difficult person to get along with, the name apparently on top of the list is Dutch manager Joost Bellart's

When contacted at Lahore's Pearl Continental Hotel, both Jorritsma and Bellart confirmed that they had been approached by IHF officials in Madison U S A during the Intercontinental Cup in June 1989 But both denied having given any commitment Said Bellart "Yes I was approached and I said, fine send me an air ticket to take me to Delhi and then we can sit and negotiate but nothing happened after that"

Jorritsma has openly aired his desire to go and coach the Indian national team but he was reluctant to push his case because he found out that India and Holland were in the same group for the Lahore World Cup "That was a stumbling factor surely," said the Dutch coach

India will have much to gain and nothing to lose if it were to go in for one of these two gentlemen. It is their knowledge of the game that has brought the Dutch back into the top bracket of world hockey. The Irish, who have fared above expectations in this tournament, too have a Dutch coach and it was coach Cees Koppelaar's tactics that gave the Irish their greatest moment in hockey when they frustrated the rampaging Pakistanis to a narrow 2-1 victory.

Koppelaar has of course also given the Irish a second World Cup appearance—and what a gallant one it has been so far. Perhaps India can take a leaf out of the Irish book.

Over and above all this, both the Dutch manager and the coach who are on line for the India job are both to retire after the Lahore tournament. They are therefore available. The question is: will the Indian Hockey Federation have the guts to implement what they have in mind and hire one of them?

Andy O'Brien, Lahore

organisers to make the Indian contingent here feel secure and at ease. Had it not been for the intervention of heavily armed personnel, the official Indian flag at the National Hockey Stadium would surely have been torn in public on the first day following the opening ceremony. It was fuelled by the Pakistani government and opposition public declaration of their support for the mujahideen. Kashmir the day before the tournament began. He has been a great help in handling the Pakistanis. The Federation has not been rewarded in any way for its efforts.



Tholba Singh dodges the Soviet keeper and other defenders to attempt for a goal. The pool A tie ended in a 1-1 draw

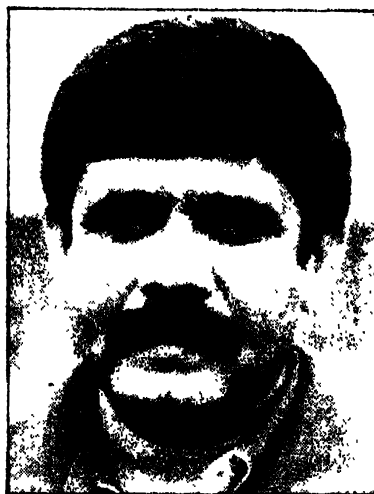
THE LIGHTER SIDE OF ... WORLD CUP HOCKEY

HOCKEY seems to be following cricket if the new craze for hockey statistics is anything to go by. Well, statistical trivia really. There are accredited hockey statisticians present in Lahore who can tell you that Floris Bovelander's hat-trick against the Soviets was the 14th hat-trick in World Cup Hockey and the second instance that a Dutchman has managed the feat; that the Soviets' first goal was the 100th goal Dutch goalkeeper Frank Leistra has conceded in his career; and that it was also the 1000th goal in World Cup history.

All results and statistics of international hockey matches are now computerised, a print-out even giving you even minute details like substitutions, warnings, number of penetrations into the striking circle, goal attempts, major and minor injuries and what have you. Vital or not, these statistics might just make the game more attractive to spectators.

IN spite of all the trivial entries into their computers, hockey statisticians would probably not know that the Sikh community—which represents just 0.02 of the world's population—has featured in international hockey teams for 15 different countries. Apart from obvious ones like Kenya and Malaysia, at one time or the other Sikhs have represented obscure teams such as Mozambique, Thailand, Hong Kong, and Indonesia.

At Lahore, brothers Hargurpreet and Hargurnek Sandhu played for Canada. In fact, Canada must be the most cosmopolitan going. Apart from the Sandhus, they have a Cedric Vaz, a Paul Chohan, a Peter Milkovich and their striker is Tam Kee Lee! One wonders what brand of hockey they play: European or Asian?



MP Ganesh

AS part of their tactical preparation, the Indian team recorded the first matches of all their group A opponents on video. The recordings were then shown to the players and strategies evolved to counter the opposition.

The programme was directed by coach M.P. Ganesh and the cameraman was assistant coach M. Kaushik, who went about his job very meticulously and professionally. This included switching the camera towards the Indian players seated in the stands at half time break.

Carsten Fischer



The joke is that, since Ganesh is such a dominating chap who does not even allow his assistant coach to decide tactics, it was a good idea to give Kaushik an opportunity to earn his keep. Maybe Doordarshan should ask Kaushik to stand in as a cameraman whenever the Indian team is playing abroad. That would cut down their expenses at the cost of the Indian Hockey Federation.

But, on the other hand, perhaps Kaushik's camerawork isn't all that good. Judging from the scarcity of tactics that the Indians displayed during the tournament, one has serious doubts about Kaushik's credentials for a job at Doordarshan.

CARSTEN FISCHER is the 'superman' of world hockey. Deadly on the field, he is strong, big and muscular and has come to West Germany's rescue many a time. Yet, when you see Fischer off the field, dressed in casuals, you will not believe that it is the same man who wields so much power on the field. In fact, with his gold-rimmed spectacles on, he actually resembles Christopher Reeve's version of Clark Kent.

It is difficult to believe that this strapping 29-year-old, who has played in 175 internationals, is still a student. Although one look at his bespectacled face does mark him as a studious type. And yes, he's introduced a new trend on the hockey field: high fives. Patented by the West Indian cricketers, high fives (where teammates thump their palms together as high as they can) are slowly replacing the normal hugging and patting on the back after a goal is scored.

Andy O'Brien



AT 6 a.m. in the morning most sane people are sleeping. Triathletes unquestionably are not sane people, because they swim, cycle and run unlimited kilometres at strange hours of the day just for fun. Journalists, like me, do not understand this fun, nor do they like mornings at 6 a.m. But it's the job you see that's insane. Covering a Triathlon in Bombay is insane. So I'm up, having just smashed my alarm clock to pieces that is

S EVEN-thirty a.m. A slightly more civilised time. Juhu Beach, that's where all the participants are supposed to meet. And journalists with a warped sense of humour. Nice place, I told myself, the waves gently lapping the shore, the tide had gone down since quite a while, the shops lining the famed Chowpatty area were opening up for their daily business and the sun was slowly revealing itself in all its glory...wow!

The Triathlon? Oh yeah, might

as well tell you all about it. Though how people ever manage to take part in it, is beyond human comprehension [especially mine]. It all seems so tough, unreasonable, but not quite, as I found out.

The idea of staging a "Triathlon" was actually first discussed over a round of beers in Honolulu, Hawaii—a group of distance runners were looking for a new challenge, and came up with the idea of racing each other over a course comprising swimming, cycling and running. This was in 1977, and by the next year the details of the competition were finalised and with it the beer

bets no doubt.

Thus was born the first Hawaiian Ironman Triathlon—starting with a 2.4 mile (4 km) swim in the ocean, then a 112 mile (190 kms) bicycle ride and finally a full marathon of 26 miles, 385 yards (42.2 kms). And all that for a can of beer!

In 1978, the first Ironman Triathlon had only 15 participants, all men. In 1989, an estimated 750,000 people competed in triathlons all over the world with top triathletes earning over \$100,000 annually. The Triathlon has also been accepted as a demonstration sport for the Barcelona Games in 1992. That's the extent of my research, now back to Juhu...

The first team triathlon in India is about to begin for a very special first time. The calm amongst the competitors, mixed with a feeling of unease and apprehension on the part of the organisers is visible. Race Director Anita Sood, the person who almost single-handedly made this happen, is going quite mad as she tries to cope with something

Bombay city
hosted India's first
Triathlon. It was
fun, it was tough,
it was crazy...
Robin Chatterjee
soaks in the
atmosphere



The swimmers are led up to the starting point

going right and the very next moment something going wrong...she's all over the place. Insanity, remember. Her voice comes from four different places at any given time.

The triathlon here is abbreviated. A shorter, smaller Indian prototype. Anita Sood says, "It doesn't matter really. In spite of the shorter distances the competitive edge of each individual discipline (this being a team triathlon) will be felt very much by the participants". The first person will compete as a swimmer, the second as a cyclist and the third as a runner. The eagerness among the participants is quite evident, some for the thrill of competing, some looking forward to winning the Rs 51,000 prize money which is at stake.

It is eight a.m. already and the crowd swells, participants come

The triathlon was wonderful! Fabulous!

STONY Mayock is from Hawaii. In his late fifties, he is not only a globetrotter but also a superb triathlete. His favourite pastime is to travel around the world participating in triathlons

Stoney was in Bombay to take part in the first triathlon ever held in India. His feel for the Bombay traffic and roads did not prove to be so good. Training for the cycling leg of the triathlon, he overshot a bump and soon, as he put it, was "eating the ground". The result—20 stitches over his right eye. Stoney undaunted, took part in, and completed the triathlon...he also spoke to **Sportsworld**. Excerpts.
How did you know about the triathlon in Bombay?

I was travelling...my purpose is to go around the world, visit as many countries as I can and compete in triathlons. When I



Stoney Mayock

got to Bombay on January 9, I heard that a triathlon was being organised. I made a couple of phone calls to Anita (Sood) and was ready.
Have you represented the USA in Triathlons?

I have. I'm part of the team there. One has to qualify for the team. They have three qualifying triathlons, in Dallas, in Ohio and the other in Chicago.

Have you done the Ironman in Hawaii?

I have. I have taken part in the Ironman triathlon four times. I also took part in the World Championships in France. I came tenth in my age-group, which is the 55-59 years category.

Since this is your first triathlon in India, what do you feel about the response?

Wonderful! Fabulous! It was well-organised and there was a

forward for their kits and towels and team number tags—some have come to watch and some to be seen

The air is filled with a continuous chatter Hi Anita Hi Natalie! (Natalie Pedder), Hi Vishal! (Vishal Kapoor), Hello there! And for the Who's Who in Bombay society it was a plastic "Hello darling" Followed by a ritualistic peck on the cheeks Oh man, they were all there, each arrival greeted by a hush in conversation from the crowd as they rolled up in their BMW's, Toyotas and Mercs Designer wear was exhibited right from swimming trunks to shoes and the public were lapping it all up "Oooh," cooed a swell, svelte looking girl, "Isn't that Amir Khan?" This I have got to see Yes there he was looking as cute as ever but at the same time so normal cool and collected No starry hang ups what? He was there to take part toggled out in his cycling gear That's the last I

Triathletes unquestionably are not sane people because they swim, cycle and run unlimited kilometres at strange hours of the day just for fun...

saw of him at the starting point as he went down in a sea of people I couldn't help commenting kinda short for an actor

Suddenly a voice boomed through the megaphone cutting through the chatter like a knife no sledge hammer "All swimmers please line up near the beach according to your waves There were three waves and each swimmer was allotted a wave according to his or her personal timing The fun was about to start

Bang! The first wave were off



said R Stoney Mayock a member of the U S triathlon team

Whatever limits we have are self-imposed... We must try to win over ourselves



lot of enthusiasm People understood the triathlon and were able to work out all the details (rules and regulations)

Do you think they can have it on a larger scale in a few years from now? The success of this one is an indication One of the good

things will be for people in other parts of the world to know about it and come here India's not so far away (laughs)

Were the arrangements good enough for you?

Beautiful Anita's handling of the whole thing was fabulous In order to get the whole thing going she sacrificed a lot of time and energy

Any advice for prospective triathletes?

Anybody can do it Whatever limits we have are self imposed We must try to avoid that and win over ourselves

So when are you coming back?

Next year

Next year

You bet you bet

R.C.

running into the sea and throwing themselves into the water. The Triathlon had begun. After the swimmers had finished the distance of one kilometre the cyclists would take over for 10 km from Palm Grove hotel to the Otters Club, after which the runners would have to complete five km along Pali Hill. Center Road and back to the club.

There were a total of 173 teams in the fray. These teams were divided into two categories: the Open team and the All Stars team. The All Stars team consisted of specialists in each discipline while the open was for the novices in any sport.

The swimmers were now coming in. Couldn't really make

the swimmer's the first team
the first team the first team
the first team the first team
the first team the first team



**Amir Khan pedalled
away furiously
overtaking one cyclist
after another despite
there being no heroine to
chase and no song to
follow...**



out who was leading the only sound was 'Come on Vishal! Come on Natalie!' The crowds were going crazy. Then suddenly out of the waves emerged Vishal Kapoor, the first one to come home. Running painfully on the sand up the stairs to Palm Grove hotel he went the distance had by now sapped his strength. Four others had already emerged from the sea and then little Natalie Pedder tottering down the sand breath coming in heaves the crowd egging her on her eyes glazed over as she handed over her number to her teammate.

The cyclists had by now taken off and surprise surprise! There was Amir Khan pedalling away furiously overtaking one cyclist after another. Despite there being no heroine to chase and no song to follow.

Amir Khan had by now gone into the Otters Club and his partner was off running up Pali Hill to finish the last leg of the race. Bikes were coming in fast now and one saw Tom Alter, film actor, sports enthusiast and also Stonewy's teammate going in to finish that last leg. Others were overtaking him though but he gamely carried on. And at that moment happened with the crowd rooting something like this: 'Come on go hurry up damn it finish the bloody race you fool. And all that stuff. All that original stuff.'

Then suddenly a sight that put a lump in my throat. Try as I might I couldn't keep it down. Little Rodney D'Souza, a tragically handicapped, unflinchingly courageous, took over from his teammate and started on his long run up Pali Hill. The rooting had stopped and almost reverently for the little hero a clapping began. It seemed like some sort of an eerie beat as Rodney started which for him was the race of his life. I looked up and saw Rodney disappearing around the bend. I missed him for the most part. Eyes were misty you see.

The first runner was coming

the first runner the first runner
the first runner the first runner
the first runner the first runner
the first runner the first runner

home at the same time as Rodney took that bend the crowd by now was going simply berserk and as soon as he crossed the finish line he fell into the arms of his teammates. The team was from BFG Pune comprising of Manmohan Singh Chavan Vinod Kumar Punmiva and Gupabe - handia Bhatt. Their timing? An incredible 50 mins 19.53 secs! The second team also from BFG Pune came in soon after.

The attention had by now shifted from the All Stars section to the Open Teams. Hah! There they were. Mohd. Rafique had just crossed the finish line waiting for him were Yun-shun Chan and Simeet Hegde.

There were Hi's and Hello's, but for the Who's Who in Bombay it was a plastic "Hello darling." Followed by a ritualistic peck on the cheeks...

Twelve noon. The stragglers were coming in. The best part of the race was already over. The crowd still surged forward everytime someone broke the tape. Tom Alter finished his race. Anur Khan who had finished second in the cycling and waited thereafter for his mate was rewarded finally by the sight of him. Thank God he's come back. I thought he had got lost somewhere. I smile on his face and cry. Thanking excuse me a voice from behind. Can I have your autograph pleaseeeas. Pause. Sure he said and then gave me a look which said I do this best. Nice guy.

At two thirty I made my way back home wearily. The Bombay sun was beating down on me almost mercilessly. It was all over but it was worth it. Hey Anita that was pretty good organising there maybe next year even though it's insane. ■



The first Hawaii ironman Triathlon starts with a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bicycle ride and a full marathon of 26 miles 385 yards...all that for a can of beer!



Race director Anita Sood is going quite mad...she's all over the place...her voice comes from four different places at any given time



**FORMULA ONE
1990 PREVIEW**

YEAR OF THE

IN the Italian town of Maranello, where the prancing horse gallops freely, the mood is upbeat for the first time since the death of Enzo Ferrari two years ago. For that matter, there is hardly any mention of the forthcoming World Cup soccer, because Maranello's heart beats for Ferrari—the man, the car and the company. All the locals, who assemble at the cafes after work, do is debate the chances of Ferrari in the upcoming Formula One season starting on March 11, 1990.

"Enzo's soul is never going to rest until Ferrari wins the F1 championship," says Marco Sennari, a 70-year-old who sells coffee to workers of the Ferrari plant. "Although, for a team which has so much riding on it, Ferrari is not doing bad, but that is not enough."

But things are changing. For the first time in 15 years, Ferrari are confident of winning the F1 championship this season. Luca di Montezemolo, an Enzo Ferrari protégé, is more than convinced of a Ferrari championship. "Prost has the most fantastic brain in Formula-1. And he can give us comparisons between our cars, our engineers and the others", he says. But that's not all. For the first time ever,

everything seems to be going right for them.

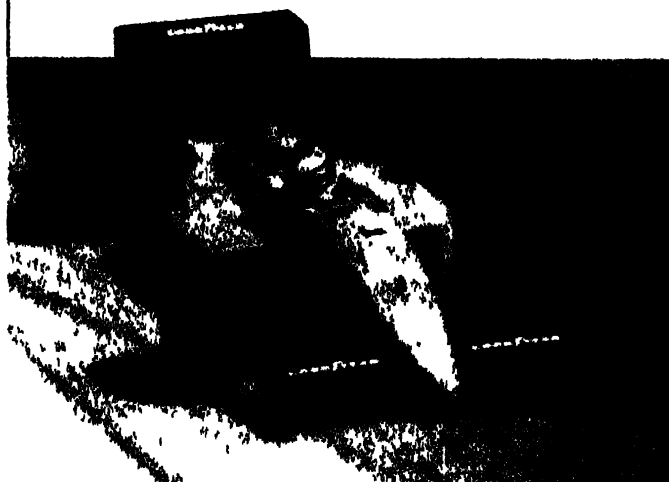
With two champion drivers, Alain Prost and Nigel Mansell, and a much improved car, the 1990 season may as well prove to be the year of the prancing horse. The only flaw in the Maranello strategy is the loss of designer John Barnard to Benetton, the man who introduced the carbon-fibre body and lifted Ferrari to the competitive class in the three years he spent with them.

In fact, the Ferrari bosses can sit back and relax for Marlboro McLarens are plagued by internal problems. The 'defection' of Alain Prost has hit them where it hurts—the most basic engine anatomy. A man of Prost's intelligence doesn't lose time before figuring out the engine basics. With most of their secrets now in 'enemy' hands, McLaren may have lost their advantage already.

It is now anybody's guess how Ron Dennis will manage two egoists—Ayrton Senna and Gerhard Berger. And, of course, also worrying them is the new 'improved' V-10 Honda engines which are a shade slower than the F640/1990 version of the Ferrari engines.

The ushering in of the '90s is going to increase the competitiveness amongst the teams, who had almost given up because of the tough

For the first time in 15 years, Ferrari are confident of winning because they have a faster car in the capable hands of Alain Prost and Nigel Mansell...



competition put forward by the all-conquering Marlboro McLaren Hondas.

With Ferrari and McLaren already having decided to go gunning for each other, who is going to surprise the fans? The Williams team might, although it is doubtful because their Renault V10 powerpack is unable to produce

enough horsepower in the right places. All the work put in this winter has helped change things a bit, but not much. Renault Motorsport's boss Patrick Faure says, "Our new engine (Renault V10'90) is a much improved version of the 1989 prototype and is going to establish us as one of the leaders."

The 'defection' of Alain Prost has hit McLaren where it hurts the most—basic engine anatomy



HORSE?



Alain Prost: Ferrari has finally seduced the three times world champion

Williams have retained the services of Thierry Boutsen and Ricardo Patrese, two drivers who brought back the glory days for the Didcot-based team. Boutsen won two GPs—Canada and Australia—along with Patrese notching up a strong second place finish.

Patrese is now the most experienced man on the circuit, facing his 14th Grand Prix season with over 190 starts behind him, but only two victories. Still, however, the success streak of Williams may be rudely jolted. If latest reports are to be believed, Frank

ASIA FEATURES



F-1 GRAND PRIX CALENDER 1990

GRAND PRIX	LOCATION	DATE
American GP	Phoenix	March 11
Brazil GP	Sao Paulo	March 25
San Marino GP	Imola	May 13
Monaco GP	Monte Carlo	May 27
Canada GP	Montreal	June 10
Mexico GP	Mexico City	June 24
France GP	Paul Ricard	July 8
England GP	Silverstone	July 15
Germany GP	Hockenheim	July 29
Hungary GP	Budapest	August 12
Belgium GP	Spa Francorchamps	August 26
Italy GP	Monza	September 9
Portugal GP	Estoril	September 23
Spain GP	Jerez	September 30
Japan GP	Suzuka	October 21
Australia GP	Adelaide	November 4

Note: This schedule is subject to change

Public Library

THE FRONT-RUNNERS

COME March and the F1 circus will assemble in downtown Phoenix to cheer the flag off of what will be one of the most exciting seasons in Formula One racing. But to many, the start will come as a rude disappointment. Monaco and Phoenix are the only two street circuits in the world today. Earlier it was Detroit, which was a bit of a joke. Phoenix maybe marginally less so, but FISA officials must realise that Americans love speed.

However, speed is the least of the issues. The biggest question facing the F1 fans is who will win the Grand Prix this year? Apart from Olympics and World Cup soccer, F1 racing is the world's most popular sport with nearly one



billion viewers in over 70 countries. The sport followers will be closely watching the duel of titans as Ferrari and McLaren clash head on for top honours.

The teams to watch in the hotly contested 1990 Formula One championship will be

Powered by top of the line Honda engines, the red and white McLarens won two back to back world championships in an all dominating manner. In 1988 they won 15 out of 16 races, while 1989 saw them winning 10 of the 16 races. Today, it is one of the most successful teams in F1 Grand Prix. Their 1990 updated version of the Honda V10

engine is high on power but lacks in acceleration, slower than archival Ferrari's 1990 prototype by a few seconds. The drivers may prove to be McLaren's shortcoming for Ayrton Senna and Gerhard Berger are two very difficult drivers as far as their talents are concerned. The way things are going now, Prost may become Ayrton Senna's nemesis in the months to come.

THE 140

The exit of designer John Barnard has come as a rude shock for Ferrari who were counting on him to provide that all important edge. But nevertheless, Ferrari have made major improvements in their F189 prototype to produce an extremely fast and ultra sophisticated engine which outpaces McLaren's by seconds. Add to this the additional advantage of two of the most dynamic drivers in Grand Prix history, Alain Prost and Nigel Mansell, and Ferrari might well regain their long lost glory.

But thanks to Ferrari and the revolutionary push button gear shift and electronics of the car, will no longer be the Maranello based team shortcoming. The world may get used to the sight of blood red bodywork taking the chequered flag.

WILLIAMS

Winners of the 1987 world championship, the team will be taking full advantage of the ship ups between Ferrari and McLaren. Much of the credit for the performance will go to the new Renault Sport V10 Formula One engine driven by the gusty duo of Thierry Boutsen and Ricardo Patrese. The alliance between a French manufacturer and an English team shows the strength of Williams' international relations. After a disappointing 1988 season, Williams won two GPs (Canadian and Adelaide) last year along with many strong second place finishes. Frank Williams says his team is close to the red and white McLaren but not quite there as yet.

THE 140

Last year, with the win at the Japanese GP, Suzuka Benetton were ready to announce their arrival into the top of the line Formula One team club. The team finished fourth on the Constructors' Championships with 39 points. Even though the team is using standard Ford Cosworth V8s, the inclusion of ex-Ferrari man John Barnard will make the team more competitive than ever. The new 8190 car will be piloted by Italian star Alessandro Nannini and 1987 world champion Nelson Piquet who comes in with an additional cash incentive for every GP point he notches up.

[illegible]

So, the gains the
business offers N is an
additional incentive

**However, the success
break of Williams may be
widely jolted. If the latest
reports are to be
believed, Frank Williams
is struggling with the new
FW13-prototype
chassis....**



**A MATCHLESS BLEND OF
TASTE & FLAVOUR FOR YOU**



PRABHAT ZARDA PRODUCTS

CAUTIONARY WARNING: CHEWING OF TABACCO IS DANGEROUS TO HEALTH



of \$100,000 for every championship point he earns along with his regular driving fee. Money is a great motivator."

Those with a taste for nostalgia will hope to see the Tyrrell team back on top this season. Italian star Michele Alboreto, displaced from Ferrari by Mansell, will be replaced by Satoru Nakajima of Japan.

Uncle Ken's new cars

Thierry Boutsen:
Driving for Williams
Renault maybe a
surprise winner if the
big two falter. (Inset)
Berger and John Bernard
of Ferrari

designed by another ex-Ferrari man. Harvey Postlethwaite are much more competitive than their 1989 versions. And with Nakajima, who shifted from Lotus to join Jean Alesi—bringing in a

heavy sponsorship from Espon, a Japanese real estate company, along with a Japanese engine which will be in use from the next season, a lot will depend on how good the much modified Cosworth engines are (carbon fibre gudgeon pins) and how much cash is there to sustain the effort.

Much the same applies to the other teams aspiring for

glory—AGS, Brabham, Coloni, Dallara, Euroburn, First, Ligier, Minardi, Osella, Rial and Zakspeed. With a possible 42 cars going for the 26 grid places, there will be a number of non-qualifiers. Most of them will be using Cosworth or Judd V-8 engines. But with Minardi possibly going in for a Subaru and a rumoured Yamaha V-8 for Zakspeed, it seems that the other Japanese manufacturers are vying to outdo Honda's pre-eminence.

But whatever the other teams are planning to do makes little difference to Ferrari or McLaren. Because their drivers are going out onto the tracks with only one aim—and that is to win.

Jason Havelock
TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS: NEWSMEN FEATURES

**Benetton-Ford have also
recruited Nelson Piquet
as their frontline driver.
The decision seems to be
a bit of a mystery, as
Piquet seemed
uncommitted last year,
finishing no higher than
third in any race...**

THE POWER OF

The newspapers, the television...all forms of media
Down Under seemingly prefer sport to economy or politics.
David McMahon, now settled in Melbourne, analyses the effect sport has on the average Australian

I determined to research this topic fully we have used the viewpoints of two sports journalists one settled in Australia (printed here) and the other who made a fleeting three week visit to cover the Australian Open. For the latter turn to page 76

WANT to get your picture on the front page of Australian newspaper? You've got no chance at all if you're a journalist, a fair chance if you're a politician, but if you're a sportsman now that's a different question altogether. Sport is so big in this country that Merv Hughes probably made page one more often in the last year than Bob Hawke.

On 30 January this year the front page of *The Herald* in Melbourne the Australian flagship of Rupert Murdoch's worldwide

empire comprised only stories on sport. While that was something of a milestone it must be pointed out in all

fairness that the Commonwealth Games were in full swing in Auckland and the Australian contingent was on its way to a record 52 gold medals.

Less than a week later when golfer Greg Norman caught a 485 kilogram shark the story and a three column picture made

the front page of *The Herald*. It did not get a major mention in any of the other national papers. This however is not to suggest that the rest of the print media regards sport as low key.

When during the Commonwealth Games Australian athlete Michelle Baumgartner claimed that she had been the target of sexist taunts from male team mates the story ran not only on the front pages of papers in Victoria (Baumgartner's home state) but on the front page of most national newspapers.

Events like the Commonwealth Games apart the most conservative newspaper in Victoria *The Age* owned by Warwick Fairfax also puts sport on its front page at least three times every week. Despite the paper's profile as Melbourne's equivalent of *The Times* in London it sees fit to put reports—and photographs—of most sporting activities on page one along with news of the economy and politics.

When Melbourne's newspaper owners launched three new Sunday papers (Fairfax started *The Sunday Age* Murdoch the *Sunday Sun* and *Sunday Herald*),



they did so on the same day 20 August 1989. Both sets of owners were shrewd enough to recognise the fact that sport coverage would be the key to success.

The *Sunday Herald* sought to win readers with a colour magazine and an extended sports section. The *Sunday Sun* too placed emphasis on sports reporting. But it was *The Sunday Age* that made the most significant impact in this field. Besides using colour on the front page of the paper, it introduced a 32 page sports section.

The importance of sport in this country and particularly so in Victoria where a sporting heritage is an integral part of the state's pride cannot be underestimated. The visual media is so much aware of the place of sport in the hearts and minds of the country's sports fans. A fortnight ago a special parade was held in the heart of Melbourne for those Victoria sportsmen and women who had won medals at the Commonwealth Games. It was a lavish affair with the uniformed stars being driven through the city centre in open top limousines and the event being shown in the night's television news.

Channel Nine whose news service continually steals the top ratings from the other four channels led their prime 6 pm one hour news bulletin that night with footage from the parade. While this might not seem unusual in view of the way Australia had dominated the Games in

Auckland consider this neighbouring Sydney capital city of the state of New South Wales had been deluged by rain. The city and suburbs were flooded, the roads were awash and emergency services were barely coping with the fact that the city had received more rain in the space of 24 hours than Melbourne receives in a whole year. Yet even this footage was relegated to second place by the triumphant return of Melbourne's athletes.

Sport is on such a way of life that this scheme of things in the evening's television news did not seem at all out of the ordinary. In fact sport dominates life to such an extent in this country that Holden Motors timed the 1989 launch of their new luxury vehicle to coincide with the Seoul Olympics.

Why do you ask? The answer is simple yet devastating. Holden management under pressure from Ford Motors were about to launch their latest family sedan, the newest model in their top selling range, the popular Commodore. Ford had already put their new Falcon model on the roads and had flooded the market with advertising. Yet Holden management bided their time, allowing or so it seemed, Ford to steal a march on their sales



tactics. Sales of the Ford Falcon rocketed while the new Holden Commodore stayed under wraps. Then during the telecast of the Seoul Olympics, they started.

During the next two weeks, as Australian households soaked up more television than at any other time in four years, the Holden advertising blitz began. Banking on the fact that because Seoul and Melbourne were on the same time zone, viewers

Merv Hughes, who makes the front pages more often than Prime Minister Bob Hawke, gets congratulated in true Aussie fashion.

would watch Channel Ten's telecast of the Games throughout normal hours instead of staying up through the night as tennis fans must do in order to watch Wimbledon because of the five and a half hour time difference between Melbourne and London. The decision by Holden's publicity department was more than vindicated. The popular advertising campaign and the number of Commodores on Australian roads today is ample testimony to the power of sport in Australia.

When Greg Norman caught a 485-kilogram shark, the story, and a three column picture, made the front page of *The Herald*

ALL IN THE GAME

THE FRIENDLY GAMES...

Not quite

THE Commonwealth Games were at first dubbed the 'friendly games'—however, by the time it was over, athletes had their fair share of 'seething' problems.

In the final afternoon, John Walker was furious at the Australian, Pat Scamell for the clash during the 1,500 metres in which they both fell at the 600 metre distance. Tragically, it was Walker's final run in front of his home ground.

"I felt like whacking him, I was so annoyed," Walker said. "He always runs rough."

Then it was the two English relay teams, men and women, who wore black badges in

their finals to convey their disapproval of an incident in which England and two other teams were disqualified in the semis of the 4x400 metres.

England appealed, claiming that their quartet received blank looks when they asked officials for clarifications on the take over markings. Their appeal was rejected.

"The athletes wore black armbands as a mark of respect for the death of sport, sportsmanship and the death of officialdom," Mike Smith, the coach said.

Trust the Brits to come up with that.



SPORT OR SPOUSE?

Choose the former

WHAT some people won't do for sport. The Yanks especially are good at this kind of thing. How else can one explain this—'Although wife kills self, husband watches game'.

It happened in Georgia. Authorities had ruled that a local woman had committed suicide but, they say, they still don't understand why her husband waited until after the Super Bowl game was over to report that she had been shot.

Mary Helen Holloway died of a gunshot wound to her head. Her husband, Gary L. Holloway, told authorities that she had shot herself after an argument, but that he decided to go to his mother-in-law's house to watch the game instead of calling the cops.

Jim Mabe, an investigator put it aptly. "I can't explain this wild story. That game was so boring."

BERNHARD'S PROBLEMS

Go with a put

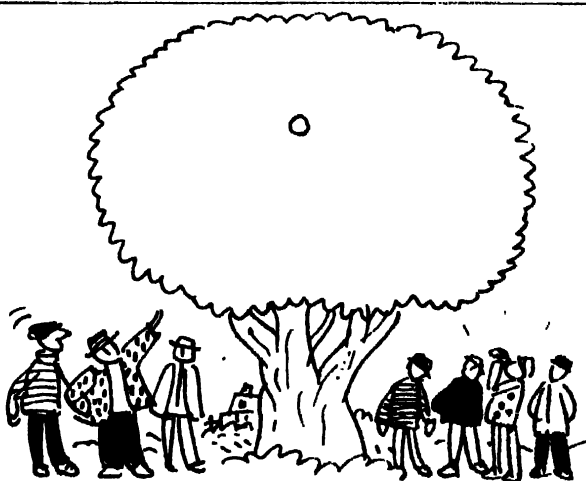
BERNHARD LANGER is a polite man. He's not given to his *donner und blitzens* so easily. But in the AT & T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am he could have been forgiven an expletive or three.

Langer was going nicely at Spyglass Hill until he came to the first, his 10th and longest hole.

Left with 100 yards, his stroke was not exactly perfect. The ball hit a tree and did not come down. Langer had to identify his ball through field glasses.

A rules official arrived and demanded proof of identification. More binoculars were commandeered and they agreed that the ball was a Titleist I.

Langer? Well, he finished with a 73.



WANKHEDE STADIUM, FEBRUARY, 1980

TEN YEARS AGO



"The moment that lost the 1980 Jubilee Test for India, yet confirmed their reputation for sportsmanship. Bob Taylor had just scored seven when he was given out caught behind by Kirmani off Kapil Dev. Taylor dragged himself away from the crease in astonishment that the umpire's finger had shot up so rapidly: but India's captain, Vishwanath, then intervened. He asked the umpire to accept that the appeal had been withdrawn. Taylor was allowed to stay, and England—at that time 85 for 5—advanced to a lead of 50 on the first innings. The stand between Taylor and Ian Botham added 171, and turned the game. Botham and Taylor finally won the game with their performances in India's second innings, but this stand was the turning point of the match.

"Bob Taylor was probably wrong to make such a show of disapproval when he was given out, although I suppose it was a natural reaction. The action of Vishwanath was wholly admirable, although it will perhaps establish a precedent for other batsmen to hang around after being given out controversially, in the hope that the fielding captain will intervene. Basically, if we do not accept the umpires' decisions, the game will fall apart."

—From 'The Cricket Revolution: Test Cricket in the 1970's by Bob Willis.

A Champion In The Making

LI JING

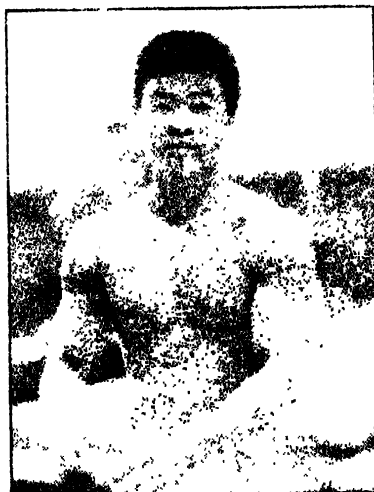
THE retirement of veterans like Li Ning, Lou Yun and Xu Zhiqiang has left some vacancies on the Chinese gymnastics team. Rising to fill the void is a crop of young gymnasts who have great potential, though yet lacking the polish and flair of their forerunners. Despite their inexperience, they already have a sheaf of honours under their belts.

On his way to a bronze on the pommel horse at the World Championships

One of these new faces is Li Jing, winner of five titles at the 1988 Pacific Alliance Championships and gold medallist at the 25th World Championships in 1989.

With his short stature and close cropped hair, the 1.60 metre-tall Li bears a certain resemblance to Lou Yun, although he is not as solidly built. He appears shy and reticent when taking to reporters, but out of the limelight he is an outgoing and excitable young man.

Born in 1970 in the city of Hengyang in Hunan Province, Li





was sent to a local junior spare-time sports school in his second year at primary school and has been involved with gymnastics ever since.

As he seldom took part in competitions, he remained little known for a long time. It was not

until 1984, when his excellent physique attracted the attention of coaches from the Beijing Physical Culture Institute, that his career began to gather steam. Soon after he was enrolled at the Institute where he divided his time between academic studies and athletic training. His teachers described him as "a clever young man with a receptive mind."

In 1987, he was spotted by the national gymnastics team's head coach Gao Jian, who took him on for training together with two older gymnasts on the team, Xu Zhiqiang and Li Chunyang. The task of molding young Li into a topflight gymnast fell to Huang Yubin, himself a former star gymnast.

Li Jing trained extremely hard

Perfecting a compulsory floor exercise technique

after joining the team. Huang and Gao brought Li along very carefully and deliberately, both ensuring that he received a solid grounding in the basics and encouraging him to develop original, difficult stunts that would set him apart from the crowd.

Blessed with remarkable flexibility and a powerful upper-body, Li is particularly good on the parallel bars, horizontal bar and pommel horse. It should be noted that the versatile Li is also no slouch at the vaulting horse and floor exercise.

Li's premier chance to shine came in December 1988, when he competed for China at the Pacific Alliance Championships held in Shenzhen. A lightly regarded dark horse, he stunned spectators by capturing the all-around title and finished first in four individual events: the pommel horse, vaulting horse, parallel bars and horizontal bar. Two of

his crowd-pleasing stunts—"forward salto piked over the bar to regrasp" on the horizontal bar and "Healy-Twirl followed by double salto forward in upper arm hang" on the parallel bars—had never been performed by anybody else before.

At the American Cup gymnastics competition in Fairfax, Virginia, in March 1984 he added a few more feathers to his cap, picking up gold medals in the vaulting horse and horizontal bar events and a silver in the pommel horse.

At the 25th World Gymnastics Championships held in Stuttgart last October, Li re-asserted his talent by taking the title in the parallel bars in addition to earning two bronze medals in the all-around and pommel horse events.

Li Jing has now made a name for himself in the gymnastics world. Only 19 and bursting with energy, he has very bright future ahead of him.

Xie Yunxin
Courtesy, China Sports

Calicut University: the champions



CHANDIGARH Inter-University Athletics

THE Calicut University athletes finished far ahead of Mahatma Gandhi University to retain their overall title in the All India Inter zonal University Athletics Championship in Chandigarh.

The top honours in the men's section was claimed by Guru Nanak Dev University. They won with a total of 32 points. In second place was Punjab University.

International Gurmeet Kaur of Punjab University was adjudged the best woman athlete of the meet. She won the gold in the shot put, the javelin and the discus throw. Dinesh Kumar was the best among the men. He won the gruelling 20 km road race, the 10 000m and a silver in the 5000m.

Some of the others winners were:

Men's:

100 and 200m Anand Natarajan
800 and 1500m Jaswant Singh
20km walk M Narayan
High Jump Mehru Mishra

Decathlon Ravinder Kumar Singh

Women's:

10 000m and 3000m Poonam Taneja

1500m Kamlesh Kumari

Heptathlon C R Chitra
Former football Olympian Jarnail Singh, Additional Director Punjab Sports Department gave away the prizes.

Parveen Kashyap

NEW DELHI Steel Trophy

STEEL Authority of India Limited (SAIL) won the Steel Trophy this year with a convincing win over Mohan Meakins at the Ferozshah Kotla grounds in New Delhi. Recently SAIL won the toss and elected to bat. But they were soon in deep trouble when they lost four wickets for 57 runs. But then salvation came in the form of Kirti Azad who scored a swashbuckling 112 (13 fours and a six) and he had a 45 run partnership with K P Bhaskar. SAIL ended up with a score of 275.

In Meakins first innings Sumit Valson and R S Bisen struck

early and they were down 65 for 4. But stellar knocks by Sapan Chopra (54) and Krishna Mohan (57) enabled Meakins to close their innings at 218.

In the second 60 over innings, SAIL build up on their lead with some fine knocks from opener C P Singh who scored 109, Ashwini Kapoor (67) and Rohit Talwar (61) and they closed their innings at 294 for six.

Meakins now had to chase 352 runs for victory and they made a hash of things from the word go. Meakins were all out for a paltry 85 runs and most of the damage was done once again by Valson who claimed three for 25 and Bisen who took 4 for 32.

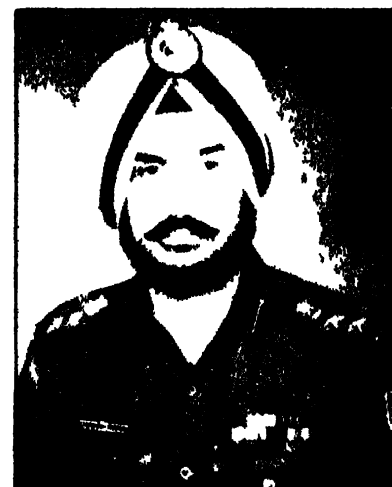
Earlier in the semi finals SAIL defeated SAI by six wickets while Meakins defeated Delhi Development Authority by 245 runs in the other semi final.

R.P. Venkat

President's Gold Medal

GURBACHAN SINGH GRANDHAWA the famed Indian athlete whose record of 14 seconds in the 110 meters hurdles has remained intact for the last 26 years has been honoured with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service on the occasion of Republic Day this year.

A Commandant in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) the



Gurbachan Singh Randhawa: honoured

50 year old Randhawa was earlier awarded the Police Medal for Meritorious Service in 1978. He also has the distinction of being the first Arjuna Award winner of the country as well as being the only athlete to hold as many as four national records at one time. He held the record of 6' 6" in the high jump, 210' 3 1/2" in the javelin throw and 6912 points in the decathlon, apart from that of the 110 meters hurdles.

A qualified coach from NIS Patiala, G. S. Randhawa led the Indian contingent to the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 where he was placed fifth in the 110 meters hurdles with a record timing of 14 secs.

Randhawa, who represented the country in the 1960 Rome Olympics and the 1962 Asian Games as well as several other international meets, is now posted as the Staff Officer to DGP CRPF in Patna.

M.P. Nathaniel

CHANDIGARH

Satellite Masters

JON SOUTHCOMBE of Britain was the winner of the Satellite Masters tournament. He defeated the second seed, Gibrichidze, Vladimir of the Soviet Union, 7-6.

Giant-killer Jon Southcombe with the Central Bank trophy



INDORE

Satellite Tennis



The men's doubles winner, Vladimir Gibrichidze and Poliakov with the doubles trophy

(7-5), 4-6, 6-3 in the final and won the Central Bank trophy. As a result of this win, Southcombe earned 8 ATP points. On the other hand, Gibrichidze, who had won the Indore leg and was a semi-finalist at Madras and Calcutta, earned 26 ATP points.

In the doubles final, Gibrichidze and his partner, Dimitri Polyakov, defeated the Indian duo of Zeeshan Ali and Vasudevan, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

Farther in the semi-finals, Zeeshan Ali was outclassed by Gibrichidze, 6-2, 6-4, and Southcombe, with a powerful serve, pulled off the biggest upset of the tournament when he defeated Dimitri Polyakov, 7-6 (7-5), 4-6, and 6-3.

With this, the Masters Satellite has come to an end and it had given a fillip to tennis fans in the state. The men's winner received 840 US dollars while the doubles winner got 300 US dollars. The total prize money at stake was Rs 1.10 lakh (\$6250). The country needs more tournaments like this to improve the standard of the game.

ASSAM

All Assam Tennis

ABOUT 100 competitors took part in the All Assam Sub-Junior, Junior and Veterans championships. The championships were organised by the Zaboru Club of Oil India and for the first time, a Veterans tournament was also organised. The following are the results:

Boys Under 18: Monoj Choudhary
Boys Under 18 (Doubles): Ujjwal Datta Medhi and Vikram Sarma
Boys Under 11: Bhaskar Chowdhury
Boys Under 11 (Doubles): Raviged Sen and Deep Chandra
Boys Under 12: Bhaskar Chowdhury
Boys Under 12 (Doubles): Bhaskar Chowdhury and Dilip Mohanty
Girls Under 18: Niharika Buragohain
Girls Under 14: Niharika Buragohain

Girls Under 12 Reshmi Katoki
Girls Open Doubles Niharika
Buragohain and Tanusree
Buragohain

Veterans Singles Wng Cdr S
Rajkhwa

Veterans Doubles Wng Cdr S
Rajkhwa and Capt R Bordoloi
Benoy Sen

taking the first game of
the first set from the
fancied Benush Venugopal of
Madras. But Venugopal recovered
quickly, won the next two games,
and thereafter took the set at 6-2.
In the second set, Venugopal
crushed Belappa 6-0.

In the second singles, Rakesh

pionships which was held in the
Central Stadium recently. It was a
dull show throughout and there
seemed no signs of improvement.

Here are the results:

48 kgs (seniors) M. Babu

62 kgs (do) Anirudhan

Above 100kgs Mohammed
Afsal



The Boys Under 14 doubles champion: Rigved Sen ((left)
and Deep Chand with the trophy

DHANBAD

Inter-Varsity Tennis

MADRAS University retained
the men's title when they
defeated Osmania University 3-2

in the final of
the All India
Inter-Varsity
Tennis
tournament
which was held
at the Indian
School of
Mines,
Dhanbad
recently.

In the first
singles, Ram
Belappa of
Osmania
started in
whirlwind
fashion by

**Venugopal:
in fine fettle**

Reddy of Osmania defeated
Sundar Raman of Madras 6 3
6-4

In the doubles, Venugopal and
Asif Ismail teamed up to defeat the
Osmania duo of Ram Belappa and
Rakesh Reddy 7 6 6-3

In the first reverse singles Ram
Belappa defeated Sunder Raman
of Madras 1 6, 6-1, 7 6 (7-5) to
even the score. However, in the
decisive reverse singles,
Venugopal defeated Rakosh
Reddy, 7-5, 6-1 to give Madras the
title.

In the women's section, Anna
University defeated Madras
University 3-1

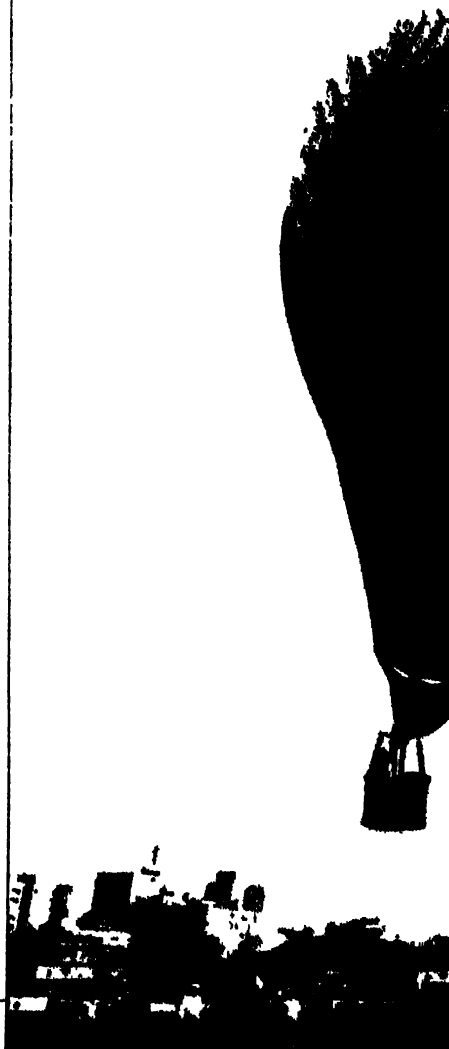
Ramesh Suri

TRIVANDRUM

State Wrestling

TRIVANDRUM retained the
senior (below 16) titles at the
37th Kerala State wrestling cham-

The Cross India ballooning
competition in progress



T N Suresh in the 57kgs category (senior) was adjudged the best wrestler

Eight District and three institutional teams took part in the tournament. Chief guest Sathar Kunju IGP, gave away the prizes

Venu Govinda Kumar P.

CALCUTTA

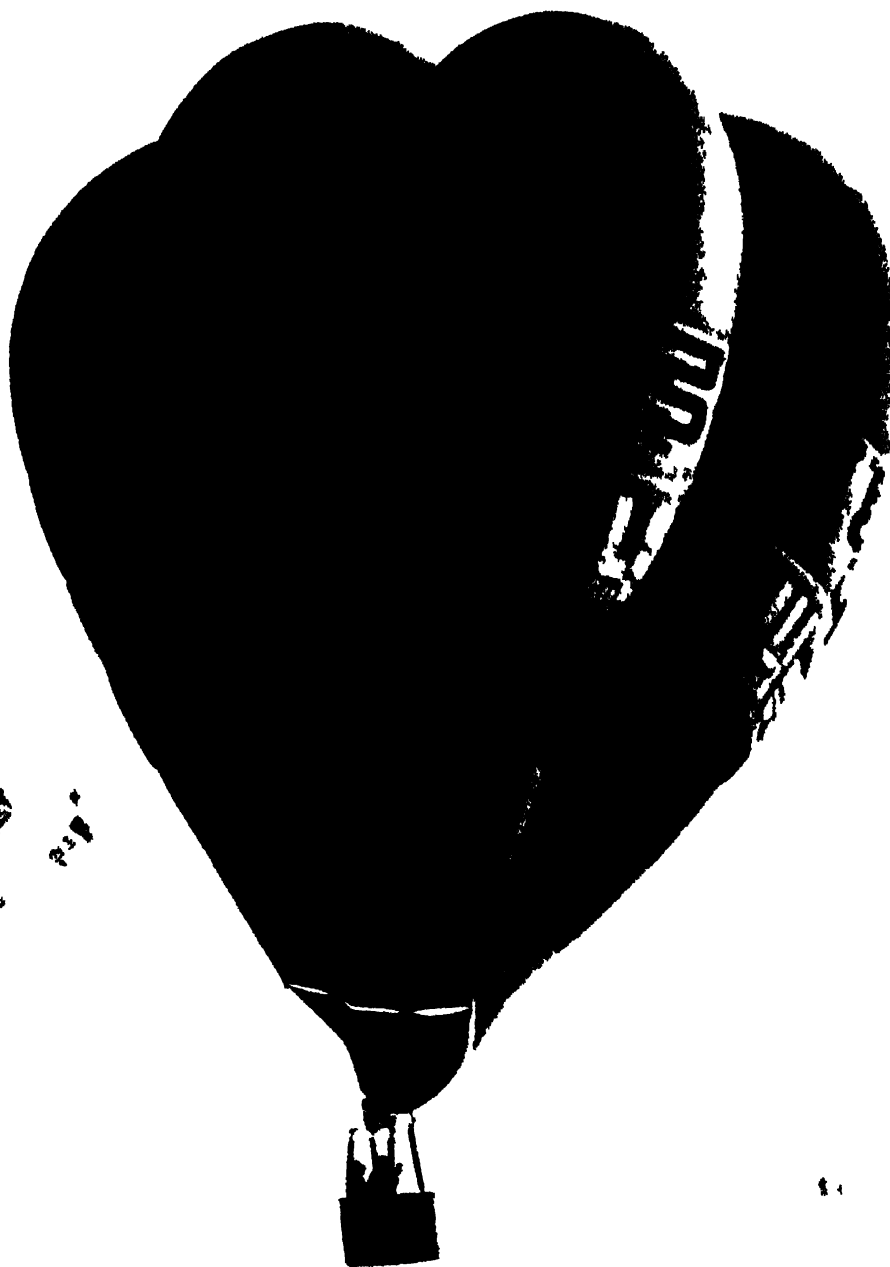
Cross India Ballooning

VISWA BANDHU GUPTA's Indradhanush fell flat on its face as weather turned spoilsport on the final day of the third Cross

India balloon expedition at the Brigade Parade ground

Strong winds, ranging from 25 to 30 knots, foiled Gupta's attempts to lift his contraption to great heights

Mr Gupta, a Congress(1) MP, was attempting to celebrate Calcutta's tercentenary by flying the balloon



Uttara
Public Library

over the city, but could barely get it 20 feet above the ground

Mr Gupta said the 100-foot balloon, which costs nearly 2.5 lakh, has no engine and is controlled by the burner which generally uses helium gas. He however ruefully admitted that there is not much control over the balloon and the wind plays a very important part in its flight.

Inter-District Volleyball

HOOGLY snatched a near impossible victory to clinch the fifth junior inter district volleyball championship title for boys. North 24 Parganas spirited start fizzed out as Hooghly wrapped up the match 3-2.

Howrah annexed the title in the girls' section in a final which never rose to great heights. The winners lost their momentum only once in the second game which they lost 11-15 but won the first, third and fourth games at 4, 4 and 12.

However, it was a see-saw battle in the boys' final. North 24 Parganas won the first game, a thriller 17-16 and then snuffed out Hooghly 15-13 in the second.

But Hooghly bounced back into the match and warded off their rivals with tremendous courage. The Pargana boys simply crumbled under some sustained attack by the Hooghly lads. They reeled off three games - the third, fourth and fifth - on the trot to end up as glorious champions. The final scoreline read 16-17, 13-15, 15-9, 15-9 and 15-6 in Hooghly's favour.

Soumitra Bose

MADRAS

Inter-University Boxing

DELHI won the All India-University boxing championships, for the first time. With two golds and two silvers they finished way ahead of the

competition. Kurukshetra was the only other team to have two gold medals.

The other teams which won gold medals (there were eleven weight categories in all) were Banaras Hindu, Maharishi Dayanand, Bombay, Poona, Haryana Agricultural, Allahabad and Kumaun.

Boxers from Osmania, the holders, had a disastrous time. Seven of them lost in the semi-finals and the two who qualified for the final were beaten in the title round. Among those who lost was the heavily favoured Fredrick Omondi Auma. The Osmania heavyweight, a burly youth hailing from Kenya, quickly pounded his opponents into submission in the earlier bouts, mainly with first round knockouts. But he went down to an unanimous points decision to plucky Joginder Singh of Maharishi Dayanand University in the main bout of the meet.

However, in the South Zone meet held just prior to the All India, Osmania easily won the team title. They took four titles while Poona, Bombay and Madras claimed two titles each (there were ten weight categories in all).

Partab Ramchand



MANGALORE

State-level Wrestling

A State-level Wrestling Tournament was conducted by the department of youth services and sports in association with Karnataka Amateur Wrestling Association at Karakala near Mangalore early this month.

Held in connection with 'mahamastaka abhishek' (Head-annointing) ceremony of Jain saint Bahubali, the tournament witnessed about 40 wrestlers vying for the titles "Bhairararasus" and "Bahubali Shree" besides prizes in four other weight categories.

Results 48 K G

1 Basappanavi, Jamakara

2 Honnappa Kolekal

Haliyala,

3 A R Nagra, Sports Hostel Belgaum

52 KG

1 Ekam Gokak Phals Belgaum,

2 Theradal Sports Hostel Belgaum, (3 Naratan Siran gapatna

57 KG

1 A G Manthargi, Sports Hos

P.H. Jadhav of Reserve Police: Winner of the 'Bhairararasus' title

tel, Belgaum,

2 Shivananda Jodalli Dharwad,

3 A V Jangli, state reserve police, Bangalore

62 K G

1 J M Nayak, Karnataka Telecom

2 Shivaji Kalogi, Sports Hostel, Belgaum,

3 T R Annasoa Udupi "Bhairararasus"

1 P H Jadhav, reserve police, Bangalore

2 Rajappa, Karnataka Telecom, 3 S M Gowrannanavar, Reserve Police, Bangalore

"Bahubali Shree"

1 M M Nadap, Reserve Police, Bangalore (2 M S Malusha, Belgaum

Michael R. Patrao



PAES RULES THE COURT



LEANDER PAES has become the latest boy wonder in Indian sports. The precocious teenager emphatically won the International Tennis Federation (ITF) junior tournament at the DLTA complex. Just a fortnight ago he was runner up in the Australian Open junior tournament. Such successes have confirmed his status as the most exciting tennis player in India since the days of Ramesh Krishnan.

Sachin Tendulkar and Leander Paes are the prospective sports heroes of the coming decade. Both are level-headed, possess a desire to win and have an equable temperament. Leander is fortunate to have an understanding father, Vece Paes. A former hockey Olympian, Vece said, "I have told Leander not to be impatient and have the dreams of Becker. Indians take longer to mature and he could reach his peak by the age of 23 years." So at least Leander does not have the over anxious parent syndrome to contend with.

Leander was expected to win the Four Square trophy for the ITF junior tournament. Creditably he won it in style. He beat his Britannia Amrithraj Tennis (BAT) academy trainee Gaurav Natekar 6-2, 0-6, 6-0 in a 85 minute final. In the earlier rounds, Leander

won with consummate ease. Such dominance led to Gaurav remarking, "Right now he (Leander) is a little stronger and sharper than all of us." The ultimate accolade, the admiration of your colleagues.

Crisp volleying at the net and powerful strokes are the hallmark of Leander's game. In his Delhi triumph, the only hiccups were his service and temperament. Coach David O'Meara said that he was working on Leander's serving style and rhythm. O'Meara explained that earlier Leander was bending back more than necessary and throwing the ball too much to the left whilst serving. This led to back strains. Hence his service style has been altered. O'Meara hopes Leander will have sorted out his serving style and rhythm in time for Wimbledon.

As the singles winner, Leander gained 30 points in the ITF's world junior rankings. He and Gaurav Natekar won the junior doubles title beating C.V. Anand and Vinod Ramchandran 6-3, 7-5 in the final. As doubles winners they got 20 ITF points. K. Janaki won the girls' singles title beating Aradhana Reddy 6-1, 2-6, 7-6 in the final.

Novy Kapadia

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- Who became the first cricketer to bat throughout both completed innings of a Test match?
- What is *démarrage* in *Tour de France* bicycle race?
- What is common to Gerd Muller, Mario Kempes and Eusebio?
- Who was nicknamed 'Bantam Ben'?
- Can a football player be sent off before the game starts?
- Who were the first men's doubles champions at Wimbledon?

ANSWERS

- Desmond Haynes. He scored 55 and 105 vs New Zealand at Dunedin in February 1980 and was the last man out in each innings.
- An escape or breakaway by a rider or group of riders which gains an advantage on the rest of the field.
- All of them became the highest scorers in the World Cup soccer finals. Muller in 1970, Kempes in 1978 and Eusebio in 1966.
- American professional golfer Ben Hogan.
- Yes, if in the opinion of the referee he is guilty of violent conduct or using foul or abusive languages.
- The Renshaw brothers—William and Ernest.

CHESS

Once again Anatoly Karpov proved to be a little too good for his opponent in the Candidates. Arthur Yusupov went down 2-1 losing the last game of their semi-final, after putting up a brave fight. Karpov meets Timman in Malaysia for the right to challenge Kasparov.

White: Karpov Vs Black: Yusupov. Queens Gambit. 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 d5 4 Nc3 Be7 5 Bg5 O-O 6 e3 h7 Bh4 Ne4 8 Bxe7 Qxe7 9 Rc1. The old Lasker Defence, characterised by black's 7th move became unfashionable without ever being refuted. Yusupov did well in this match using it thrice and losing just this game.

9 -c6 10 Bd3 Nxc3 11 Rxc3 dxc4

12 Bxc4 Nd7 13 O-O e5 14 Bb3 ed4 15 ed4. Of course white accepts the isolani for free play.

15—Nf6 16 Re1 Qd6 17 Ne5 Nd5 18 Rg3 Bf5? Black's 17th is unusual and his 18th is plain bad 18—Be6 19 Qh5 Kh8 leaves white with a small edge. Usually black plays 17—Be6 anyway.

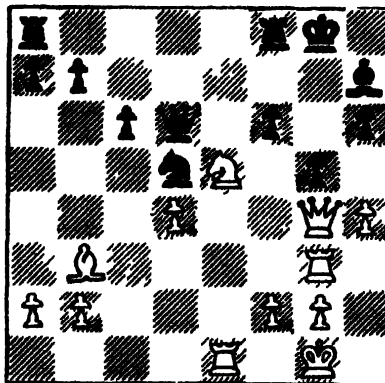
19 Qh5 Bh7 20 Qg4 g5 21 h4 f6 (see Diagram) 22 hg5! hg5.

Simple chess as 22—fe5 23 gh6+ finishes the game. White has achieved a winning setup by natural obvious moves. One wonders what Yusupov missed.

23 f4! Rae8 24 fg5 fe5 25 g6 Bxg6 26 de5 Qe6 27 Bxd5 cd5 28 Qxg6+ Qxg6 29 Rxg6+ Kh7 30 Rd6 Rc8 31 Re3 Rc2 32 Rd7+ Kg6 33 Rxb7 Re8 34 a3 d4 35 Rd3 Rxe5 36 Rxd4 Rg5. For the last ten moves Yusupov has struggled to induce counterplay but Karpov sees further.

37 Rd6+ Kh5 38 Rh7+ Kg4 39 Rd4+ Kf5 40 Rd5+ Kg6 41 Rg7+ Kxg7 42 Rxg5+ Kf6 43 Rb5 a6 44 Rb6+ Ke7 45 Kh2 Kd7 46 Kh3 Kc7 47 Rb3? Kd6 48 g4 Ke5 49 Kh4 Kf6 50 Rb6+ Kg7 51 Kh5 a5 52 Rb7+ Kg8 53 a4 (1-0). There's nothing left left to play for.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

There are times when no amount of scientific investigation in bidding can locate what one needs to know. Today's hand from a pairs event at the recently-concluded nationals at Kakinada would doubtless have pleased two of my favourite partners, Kamal Mukherjee and Debashis Ray, both great believers

in the art of going by table-feel and in having a practical approach at all times -

Dealer South		N S vul	
		NORTH (dummy)	
		♠ 9 4	
		K 9 8 5 2	
		10 7 5 3	
		♣ 8 4	
WEST		EAST	
♠ 10 7 6 3 2		♠ A K Q J 8 5	
6 4		10	
K 9 4		Q J 8	
♣ 10 7 2		♣ J 9 5	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A Q 1 7 3	
		A 6 2	
		♣ A K Q 6 3	
SOUTH		WEST	NORTH
1	Pass	1	♠
6	Pass	Pass	6 ♠
7		All Pass	

The bidding needs a little explanation. After my rather heavy opening (but it pays to open low with a pronounced two suiter) my partner North had a hand tailor made for one of my pet methods, the pre-emptive jump raise (in case you are wondering we have other methods to show healthy raises). Since there was no way to find out partner's exact minor lengths which would make a grand good or bad, I jumped to what I thought would be the best spot, hoping thereby to dissuade East-West from a cheap sacrifice.

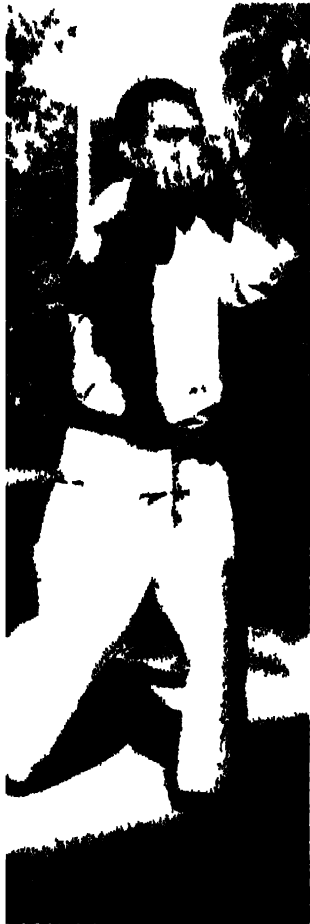
When East nevertheless went on, I realised that it would not be worthwhile taking the safe 500 (if clubs broke 4-2) at pairs where many East-West might allow South to play in six or maybe five. Accordingly, I decided to take a chance on seven which, if it failed, would only convert a poor score to a bottom, while if successful, would convert it to a top. In view of the doubtful bidding, the opponents decided to take a chance on beating seven hearts but with the lucky 3-3 break in clubs, the grand slam easily rolled home as dummy's diamond losers went away on my clubs. For East, he would have been better off passing six hearts instead of taking the save!!

Shantanu Ghosh

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING with the two-punch one-kick combinations, let's discuss two straight punches followed by a roundhouse kick



Follow it up with a straight punch with the right hand

Standing in *kumite-dachi*, hands held up to guard face, throw a straight punch with the

Throw a straight punch with the left hand ▶



Complete the sequence with the roundhouse kick with the right leg ◀



left hand Withdraw the hand immediately to guard the face as you throw another straight punch with the right hand Using the forward momentum generated by the punch deliver a *jodan mawashi geri* (roundhouse kick) to the head

Used very often in tournaments, this technique is especially effective if the punches land correctly With your opponent crouching from the effect of the punches, the sweeping roundhouse will be more devastating as it makes contact with the head to drop him

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Squats Are Super

THE times, they are a changing. Squats, which were considered an absolute no-no about 10-15 years ago, are now one of the most popular leg-builders the world over. Considered a 'knee wrecker' thanks to the high-intensity work they were subjected to, athletes are now realising that, done correctly, squats are the magic word when it comes to building strong legs.

Almost all power and strength athletes—footballers, shot putters, discus throwers, hammer throwers, high jumpers, sprinters etc—use squats to improve their explosive power. Endurance types—long distance runners, tennis and basketball players etc—use it to maximise their natural ability. And you can bet your last rupee that every top bodybuilder and weightlifter worth his or her salt is doing squats until the cows come home.

But then, those are the top athletes. What about the guys like us? Guys who are keen on staying in shape—yeah, who can resist legs like Stallone's?—but don't have the time or the application to really keep at it. Can squats be of use to such a man? You bet! Provided you don't have any underlying cartilage or patellar ligament knee damage or pre-existing lower-back injuries, squats are just

what the doctor ordered.

There's no doubt that squats are the best overall exercise for your lower body. They work (in order of sequence) the low-back lumbar extensors, gluteus maximus and medius (extensors and abductors), quad-

riceps (knee-joint extensors and hip-joint flexors) and hamstrings (knee and hip joint extensors). Translated into English, that means the biggest muscles of your body—and the most powerfull—are getting into the act when you

crank out a squat. And therefore get stronger and stay in shape.

What's more, while the biggies do all the major work, the smaller muscles like the abdominals and calves also cash in by accepting some of the strain by helping to stabilise your body. An intense squat works out the entire body, including your heart and lungs.

When done correctly—back slightly arched, head facing forward, knees in line with feet during descent and ascent, and a slow and controlled descent without any bouncing—squats promise results. And if you do the 'high-bar' variety you're almost assured of a tighter, sleeker rear end, a slimmer waist and hips and better-developed quadriceps.

Interested? Okay, here goes: hold the barbell across your shoulders, raising your trapezius muscles somewhat to prevent the bar from settling on the two promin-





ent vertebrae at the base of the neck. Elevate your heels by a couple of inches (a wooden block or a thick plate will do) to allow your back to remain fairly upright, and hold your chest high. Look straight ahead: looking up will be murder on your sense of balance while looking down will make you dump the bar over the top of your head. And get started

Bend the knees slowly as you lower till your thighs are parallel to the floor. Then, making sure you don't bounce out of the bottom position (that's what causes the injuries) smoothly straighten the knees again to get back to the starting position.

High-bar squats have several advantages over the other types of squats. For one, the upright position transmits the force down through the bony parts of your vertebrae instead of creating a force directed towards your ligament and muscles. Also, the lack of leverage forces you to settle for a lower weightage on the bar, thereby preventing injury. And, most important, they channel the force down through the quadriceps instead of spreading it through the hips, glutes and lower back.

Try high-bar squats twice a week, doing them only after you're warmed up fully. In fact, you could do a couple of warm-up sets with a very light weightage before really bombing the quads with the maximum weight you can handle.

'SPORTS REPORTING IS SHARPER NOW'

Has the standard of cricket writing fallen from your days?

I don't think so. A lot of people walk up to me and say 'Cricket reports are not like what they used to be in your time', but that is not an accurate picture. However, if readers feel this way, there must be a reason. One that I can think of is that in my time the same man reported all the cricket matches from the Ranji/Duleep level to the Tests. Even in *The Times of India* now non-specialists reporters are sent off to report cricket. It might be done to distribute favours. If there is someone who hails from Hyderabad, then sports editors send him to report a game in Hyderabad because it suits them. Because of so many generalists, people assume that the standard of sports writing has fallen. But here I disagree; since I follow the Bombay papers closely, I find Ayaz Memon and Suresh Menon's writings as good as any of the 60s and 70s. I told Ayaz that his off-day pieces from the West Indies were entertaining. On the whole, reporting is much sharper now. There is a greater sense of discipline as well. The deadlines now for newspapers are 10 pm, while in our day our copies would get

K.N. PRABHU, CELEBRATED CRICKET WRITER OF THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES, TELLS MUDAR PATHERYA

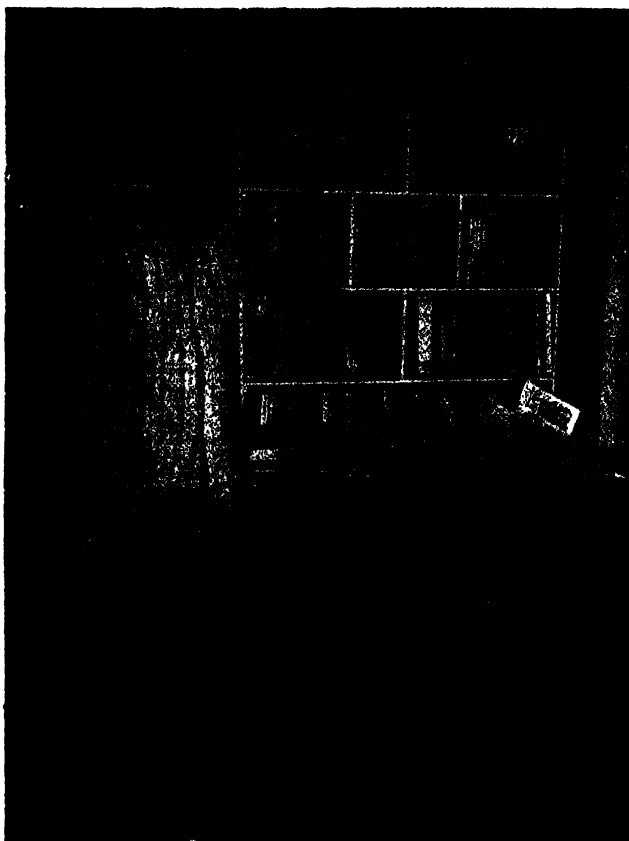
published even if we sent in despatches by 1 am!

There was a greater emphasis on style in your days. Today the accent seems to be on gossip. I agree. The trend was beginning in my time with women reporters discussing the lives of cricketers. Also, because of the impact of TV the emphasis has shifted to

gossip. When cricket matches began to be televised in the 70s, I had outlined two challenges that journalism faced —one, we couldn't afford to report matches since the reader had probably seen it on TV anyway. Two, sportsmen entered the profession and they had nothing to contribute by way of

useful opinion. The only two who I find readable are Imran and Tiger Pataudi. The others are merely slanging against each other. Take Bedi for example; perhaps he wanted to settle a score against Gavaskar in his columns. Not only were his columns badly written, there was nothing in his columns that I cared to remember either.

Journalists feel that the profession is in danger because of the entry of sportsmen into the profession. And why not? Would a doctor want to see quacks enter the profession? Just because a particular tablet cured your stomach problem, would that make you competent to advise others with stomach problems to use that tablet? Journalists come up the hard way. In the late Fifties when Benaud was leading Australia against Peter May's MCC, he was a reporter



MUDAR PATHERYA

There is a greater discipline now. The deadlines now for newspapers are 10 pm, while in our day our copies would get published even if we sent in despatches by 1 am!

on the police beat! There was another case of when the sportsman writing made a bloomer. Clive Lloyd made a racist remark ('black and white') in a signed column, then denied it, blaming it on his ghostwriter!

There is another feeling that only incompetent reporters feel insecure about this syndication business.

I am not sure if that is correct. Obviously, here I must say that the men in charge realise that big names sell. One paper even went to the extent of justifying the use of syndicated columns because it was getting it cheap. After all, it takes much money to send reporters out to report events. But someone must do a reader response survey of whether reports by specialists are preferred to syndicated columns or not.

How relevant would your style have been today? Do you think there is enough scope to write descriptive prose as there was at one time?

I would have had greater scope in *The Times of India* today than I ever did earlier. When I went to England in 1974 our paper had only four columns of sport each day. Compare this with 12 columns on weekends in my first year with the paper and nearly nine-ten columns now. Even inter-university cricket matches are reported these days. There used to be another handicap in my time, when you went to cover national tournaments you didn't have telex lines and had to make do with telegrams. The problem

with telegrams was that one had to count the words one wrote. Copies were split after every 100 words and this made a person like me very conscious. It didn't permit an easy flow of writing. Besides, one had to start writing by tea time. In England, 1971, I remember one had to phone in one's copy from the county centres to a certain place in London from where copies would be re-transmitted to India or wherever. These days, not only do you have the fax on which a copy can go through in less than three minutes, you have some papers devoting two full pages to sport daily. Compare this with the fact that I would always be conscious of getting only four columns—now they have double!

Has the cricket readership become too statistical? You find writers concentrating on who scored how many in how much time.

Statistics has finally been recognised as an important slice of the game. I was the other extreme; I used to be accused of writing for the tourist department rather than the cricket reader. There was a good reason for this. I wanted to create a mood of Port-of-Spain in my despatches if I was writing from Trinidad. I would try and compare the palm trees and the humidity of that place with Bombay's. I find few cricket writers doing this today. I have often said that if you place a Wankhede Stadium match report alongside a Guyana match copy, few readers will be able to tell the difference. And it is not just limited to cricket reporting—I attempted to infuse an element of colour into hockey and football matches in Delhi. Much depends on the style of the persons reporting the event, the reporter's psychological disposition.

Are few editors pushing their reporters to acquire a sense of style in sports reporting?

You can't acquire 'style' in that sense. I enjoyed R. Mohan's description of Gavaskar's 188 at Lord's during the Bicentenary Test in 1987. He managed to capture the spirit of the ground and the game in that article. To be able to drink in the atmosphere of the ground or the event, I would religiously go to the venue at least half-an-hour before the start of play. I suppose I had so much material to write that I started the practice of filing Diaries. A few correspondents complained that 'Since you have started it, we will also be asked to do it'.

There is a feeling that there is more legend than fact in the reports of old.

Not always. For a fact, I can swear that we never had a number three batsman like Lala Amarnath, irrespective of what the records might say. There is also a story of a conversation between Wilfred Rhodes and Emonott Robinson, both tapping the sticky wicket and trying to judge how it would behave. One said 'It'll turn by 3.00' and the other interrupted to say 'Nay, by 3.30'. Now, yes, that must have been fabricated because when this conversation took place, Cardus was in his pram!

There is a greater emphasis on quotes nowadays. In my entire reporting career, I used only one quote and that was after Benaud's team had lost at Kanpur in

CAPTAINS COMPARED

Tiger

Pataudi—Sometimes I felt that he wasn't quite there. But there was no other side to him. I will say in his defence. He had a certain way of conducting himself and didn't go out of his way to cultivate friendships. He didn't make the others feel that he was a law unto himself. At least one could relate to him on the mental level.

Sunil Gavaskar—He was a better speaker than Pataudi. Tiger was embarrassing as a

public speaker. I remember on the 1967 tour Pataudi went around from function to function starting his speech with 'My name is Mohammed but I am no prophet' and saying 'Rusi Surti is the only Englishman we have in our team considering that he has already picked up an accent'. Sunil was very assured.

Bishen Bedi—He was a little loud but intelligent. He was the last of the guys with whom I could establish some sort of a rapport.



the late Fifties. Benaud came up with an interesting observation on the wicket and since I found it relevant I used it. Apart from that I have always felt that it should be the reporter's observation of events that should count. The quotes I invariably left to the agency man from PTI or Reuter.

How did cricketers react to press criticism in those days?

I suppose they were too well-mannered to say anything. I remember one incident with Lala Amarnath, who had a reputation for being rough and tough. My predecessor at *The Times of India* had launched a virulent attack on Lala, never referring to him as the Indian captain but as the swashbuckling substitute captain. This went on for some time.

So when I joined the paper I nervously went and introduced myself to Lala one day. I expected him to be rude but on the contrary he was extremely polite. Perhaps the cricketers of those days were stoic. Or they didn't read what I wrote!

Would you interact with the players?

No. In fact, Rajan Bala would often ask me why I did not socialise with the players. Maybe with the majority of them I was on a different wavelength. My liaising with cricketers ended after Tiger Pataudi retired. At least I could interact with him on the intellectual wavelength. I could even share a few words with Jai Bang or to a certain extent, Border. After they retired I started feeling the generation gap. I never got around to speaking

To be able to drink in the atmosphere of the ground or the event, I would religiously go to the venue at least half-an-hour before the start of play

to the others. **Most associations of sports journalists give awards to sportsmen. Don't you think that it is high time they started giving awards to sports journalists themselves for their contribution to sport or the profession?**

ITC started an award to sports journalists but it was a temporary one. Maybe it won't be a good idea to have sports journalists giving one to themselves given the amount of resentment it could cause to the others. I am in favour of

awards but only if the Rotary Club or some other such organisation is giving it out. Maybe if they gave one to a journalist it wouldn't be too bad in itself.

Which would you rate as your most memorable tour?

It was the 1951 tour of England. We only lost one county match and eventually won the Test series. I got to see a lot of the counties on that visit. I went to D H Lawrence's county, Notts. I went to Byron's hometown in Newstead Abbey. I found a chair there which was presented to Byron by Marquess of Wellesley, which once belonged to Tipu Sultan. Now that chair finished with the great cricket promoter Sir Julien Cahn. I wrote a piece in which I mentioned how everything tended to come back to cricket.

MAILBAG

NOT TRUE



Yours truly,
Sunil Gavaskar

THIS is with reference to P T Usha's interview (*Sportsworld* 31 Jan) In the interview, she claims that after explaining to me how important the honour of representing the country in the Olympics was and other details, I said 'Sorry' to her for my remarks about her in my syndicated column

This is simply not true In fact, it was the other way around as her coach, Mr O M Nambiar apologised to me saying that Usha's ghostwriter had written her columns without her knowledge and permission

I barely got the chance to say hello to her as every effort at conversation with her was answered by Mr Nambiar The matter of saying sorry to her does not arise at all

I shall keep the rest of the conversation confidential as I did even then when asked by journalists there as I do not wish to embarrass her at all She has been the pride of the country for long and I sincerely wish that she will continue to win more glory for the country in the future

SUNIL GAVASKAR
Bombay



400!!

RICHARD HADLEE deserves our congratulations for becoming the first bowler in Test history to take 400 wickets And this is a most extraordinary performance

In fact throughout his career he has maintained consistent length speed and incisiveness Despite two surgical operations his bowling has remained as penetrative as ever One wonders what would have happened to New Zealand if they did not have such a fearsome bowler as Richard Hadlee in their ranks

R R BANGADIWALA
Ahmedabad

HEARTY congratulations to the great all rounder Richard Hadlee for taking 400 wickets and creating a new record He is the first man to do so It was an impossible task for a bowler to take 400 Test wickets in today's game but Hadlee has done it and it

has been done through sheer hard work

Incidentally an interesting statistic His 50th 150th 374th and 400th wickets have all been that of Indian batsmen

Best of luck for the future Mr Hadlee!
S BACHANJET SINGH
Hyderabad

HATS off to Richard Hadlee for achieving the landmark of 400 wickets literally emphasising as well as putting beyond doubt that he is one of the best bowlers the world has ever seen

I feel sorry for the so-called young side of the Nineties to be humiliated so badly by the Kiwis So our cricket chairman Raj Singh Dungarpur at last had to eat his words and bring in Vengsarkar who was till a few days ago not required

PRABAL GUHA
Gurgaon

Congrats

My heartiest congratulations to the legend Steffi Graf and Ivan Lendl for winning the first Grand Slam title of the year and the decade Steffi Graf has won the Australian Open for the third successive year in a row while

Lendl took it his second win in a row Although Lendl's win is not as satisfactory as Ldberg had to retire from the match due to injury

SUBRAT SAMAL
Rourkela

Hail King Richard

SHANMUGAN MUDALIAR
Pune

Hail King Richard Hadlee
Four Hundred wickets to thee
Many a milestone has been reached

But this cannot be easily
breached

Master of cut and swing
His bowling has a lethal sting
As many a batsman has found
When he leaves the ground

This achievement is unique
Because of his technique
His accuracy and direction
Is sheer poetry in motion

With an economical run
The ball comes from a gun
A one dayer or Test
Hadlee is the best

Hail Richard Hadlee the King
The maestro of swing

CONTROVERSY

It was one of boxing's most shining moments. The 10th round knock out of the

invincible Mike Tyson by journeyman James Buster Douglas marked a moment of redemption for a sport which has become one of the most corrupt businesses of the universe.

But the beauty of one of the most exciting fights in modern sport would last hardly nine hours. Before the world could relish the thrill of a historic win by the underdog, the underworld of boxing would snatch it away unscrupulously. Two of the three governing bodies of boxing would

'IRON MIKE' MELTS

And finally everything has caught up with Mike Tyson. Last year Frank Bruno shook him. And now James 'Buster' Douglas has beaten him.

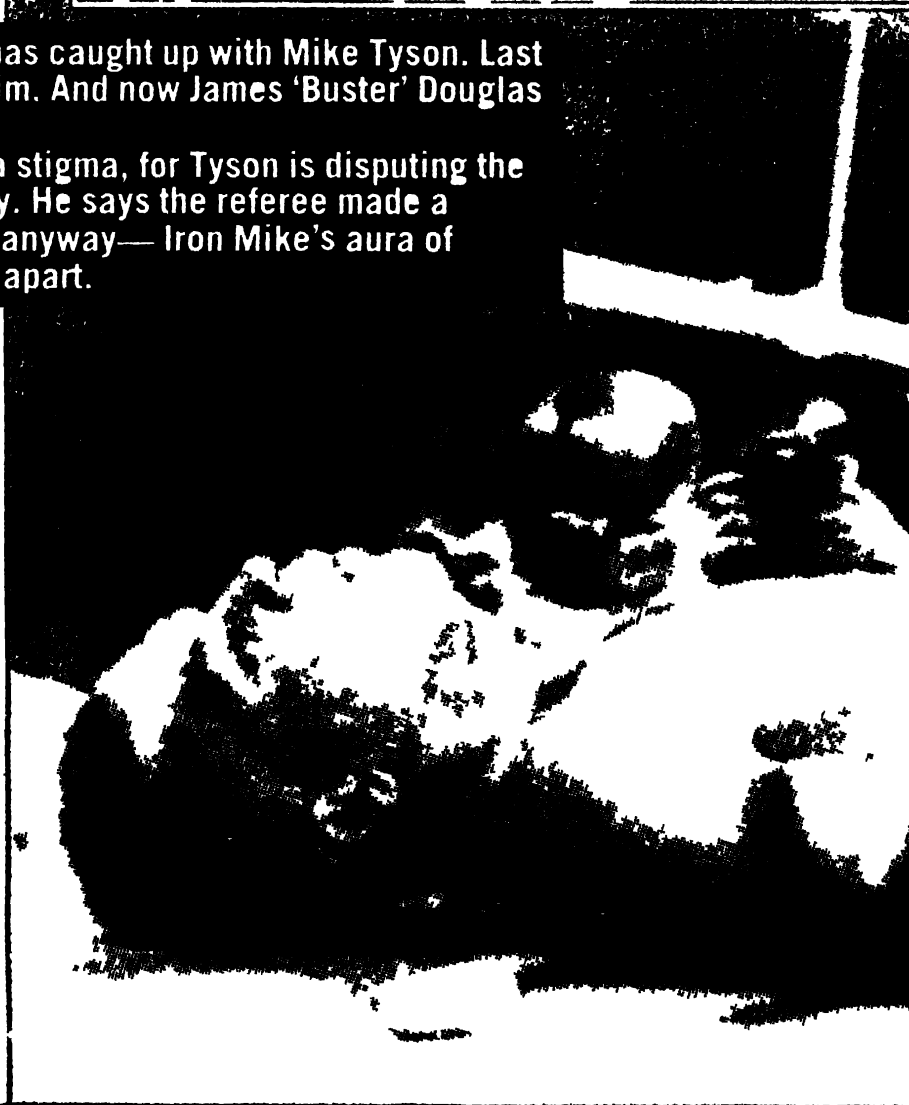
But the fight will carry a stigma, for Tyson is disputing the knockout on a technicality. He says the referee made a mistake. It doesn't matter anyway—Iron Mike's aura of immortality has been torn apart.

put a hold on Douglas's claim to be the undisputed champion of the world for a minor error committed by the referee.

It was the dawn of a new era in heavyweight boxing. The invincible has been conquered and the ring was wide open to the hard working and hard hitting boxers all over the world. It would no more be the sole domain of Don King and Mike Tyson.

Suddenly, it was turned into a nightmare, one of the most sordid chapters in the history of the sport. Don King, the promoter (and not manager) used his puppets in the World Boxing Council (WBC) and the World Boxing Association (WBA) to snatch away a glorious victory which a courageous young man had dedicated to his mother only hours ago.

They are trying to steal a moment of history, deplored boxing historian Bert Randolph Sugar. That said it all.







Don King (alias Con King according to the members of the US media) had only one noble reason for his protest against the result—fairness. "That's what this country is all about," exclaimed the patriot. He even managed to make referee Octavio Meyron confess on international television that he had made a mistake—talk about the depths to which greed can sink a sport.

Ironically, it was a fight nobody wanted—not the American promoters, not the closed circuit television businessmen, not the casino barons, not even the American media. Even in distant Tokyo, Mike Tyson's novelty had worn out. The only selling point the Japanese promoter could find was a knock down of the champ by sparring partner Greg Page. Jokes about American journalists telling Tokyo customs officials that the duration of their assignment this time was about a minute and a half, were all over

MIKE TYSON: "I HAVE NO EXCUSES. I LOST"

ONE of the tragedies of this fight, prevalent in other sports too, was that although Douglas was the new heavyweight champion, it was Tyson, the loser, who was still more newsworthy.

Although unaccustomed to his new role of challenger, not champion, Tyson was tough enough to insist, "I have no excuses. I lost". But, should anyone believe so, his career is not over: "It's just temporary, minor setback. I'll be the champ again. I'm not the kind of guy who's going to cry if you take the bottle away. I'm still one of the best fighters in the world and when the rematch comes, I'll prove it".

town.

It was a fight Mike Tyson did not want to fight. His heart was not in the fight. There was no fire in his eyes as he came into the ring. He looked bored as he waited for the introductory formalities. Here was an overconfidently arrogant fighter who had underestimated his opponent and the world.

In the opposite corner was a man, who at 29, was seeking redemption at a time when fate has been playing cruel games with his life. Douglas' mother had died hardly a month ago, his wife had left him recently and the mother of his 11-year-old son was diagnosed to have a critical condition. His 29-4-1 record was nothing to rave about. His only other title challenge, an International Boxing Federation (IBF) bout against Tony Tucker in 1987 had resulted in a 10 round loss.

All Douglas had was a lot of

'THE (FIRST) BATTLE OF THE LONG COUNT'

THE controversy over the Douglas-Tyson fight, involving the referee's long count during a knockout, is by no means unique. In fact, the rematch between Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney on September 22, 1927, has historically been known as 'The Battle of the Long Count'.

The Manassa Mauler, as Dempsey was known, was a fearsome, wonderful fighter—a highly skilled, remorseless boxer with a knuckling punch. A very fine man too. But by the late 1920s Dempsey was slowing down—almost a natural physical decline. But when he fought Tunney for the first time and lost, another reason emerged for his awkward and clumsy display. They said that Dempsey was leading too much off a good life, and was unbalanced by the break up with his manager, caused by his marriage to movie actress Estelle Taylor. Almost coincidentally, the same reasons for Tyson's fall from grace.

But Dempsey was a better man, and trained harder for the rematch against Tunney.

Prior to the fight it had been decided that, in the event of a knockout, the standing fighter must go to the farthest neutral corner before the count began.

In the seventh round Dempsey knocked down Tunney but for some reason ignored referee Dave Barry's instructions to go to a neutral corner. Eventually he did after 5-6 seconds and it was then that Barry, began his count—and Tunney was to rise at the count of 'nine'. The official timekeeper's clock had Tunney on the canvas for 14 seconds while most newspapermen believed it was about 16-17 seconds. But Dempsey was at fault and it was too late. Tunney got up, won the fight and ended Dempsey's career.

behind the time keeper's count. It didn't matter to them that the referee's pace of the count was the same after Tyson was flogged in the 10th

Instead of coming out smoking in the ninth, Tyson was a willing victim on the ropes. In the 10th round, Douglas battered him at will, before knocking him down at 1:23 with a ferocious five punch combination

Millions watched in disbelief as he staggered on the canvas and searched for his mouth piece. He too got a long count but the difference was that he could not balance himself on his feet at the count of 10

Yet, the score card of the judges were as dismal as King's protest. Neither of the two Japanese judges had Douglas ahead. Ken Morita scored it 87-86 in favour of Tyson and Masakazu Uchida scored it even at 86. Only the American judge Larry Rozadilla had Douglas ahead at 88-82. He gave round 8 to Tyson and the others to Douglas

Imagine what the outcome would have been had the bout gone all 12 rounds—Tyson would have probably been the winner by split decision. 'The two Japanese judges must have been taking pictures of the crowd, instead of watching the fight,' commented Evander Holyfield's manager Don Duva. (Holyfield was to fight Tyson next)

Conventional wisdom and the rules of the sport say that the referee's count is what matters. The fighter is expected to follow

guts, the memory of his mother and a trainer John Johnson, who had prepared a realistic game plan for him

Numbers did not lie in this case. While Douglas landed 230 of his 414 punches, Tyson connected 101 of his 414 attempts. But for the eighth round knock down suffered due to momentary lapse, Douglas dominated the fight all the way. Never before has anyone seen Mike Tyson hold an opponent as he did in this bout

Tyson's former trainer Kevin Rooney was right when he said Tyson didn't know what he was doing in the ring. His slow start certainly built up Buster's confidence. While Tyson waited for his big knock out punch, Douglas was piling up points round after round

In the eighth round, Douglas relaxed for a moment and Tyson

felled him with a monumental upper cut that very second Douglas got up at the count of nine and the bell rang announcing the end of the round. As the Tyson camp would argue later, the referee was two seconds

STOP PRESS

TYSON's promoter Don King withdrew his protest over the referee's mistake and had immediately began planning a rematch between Tyson and Douglas on June 18th, in Atlantic City.

The World Boxing Council has already recognised James Douglas as its champion and now only the World Boxing Association's confirmation is awaited. (The International Boxing Federation was the first to officially recognise Douglas).

Evander Holyfield was to be the next contender for the heavyweight title, but apparently he has agreed to step aside and take on the winner of the rematch.

So James Douglas is then, officially, the new heavyweight champion of the world.



his commands and counts. If the referee is wrong, why punish the fighter who won the bout hands down? What kind of fairness is that. Only in the kingdom of "con" King is it fair to punish the innocent

While Tyson hid behind King and refused to come out to meet the press, King was manipulating

the WBA and WBC officials to announce their titles vacant pending decisions by the 20th of the month. Only the U.S. based International Boxing Federation (IBF) had the decency to declare Douglas the champion.

Initially it seemed as if WBA and WBC will declare Tyson their champion or declare a

"no-contest", ordering a rematch. That is what King really is interested in.

The alphabet associations (WBA and WBC) may yield to public opinion and declare Douglas the winner, but order a rematch. That may not silence the cry for a federal investigation into the workings of the Mexico-based WBC and the Venezuela based WBA. A series of prolonged legal battles may precede a final resolution of the dispute.

Whatever, the final snapshot from the 28 minutes and 23 seconds will linger in history. A million replays of the long count administered to Douglas is not going to erase it. It is the image of a one-eyed Mike Tyson, groping for his mouth piece and then sticking it on the side of his mouth.

The alphabet boys of WBA and WBC can put their belts back on Mike Tyson's belly. But the hanging mouth piece will remain forever in his opponents' minds as the symbol of his mortality.

George Thottam

SOME FAMOUS UPSETS

1) June 13, 1935. James Braddock defeated Max Baer at New York city. 15 round decision

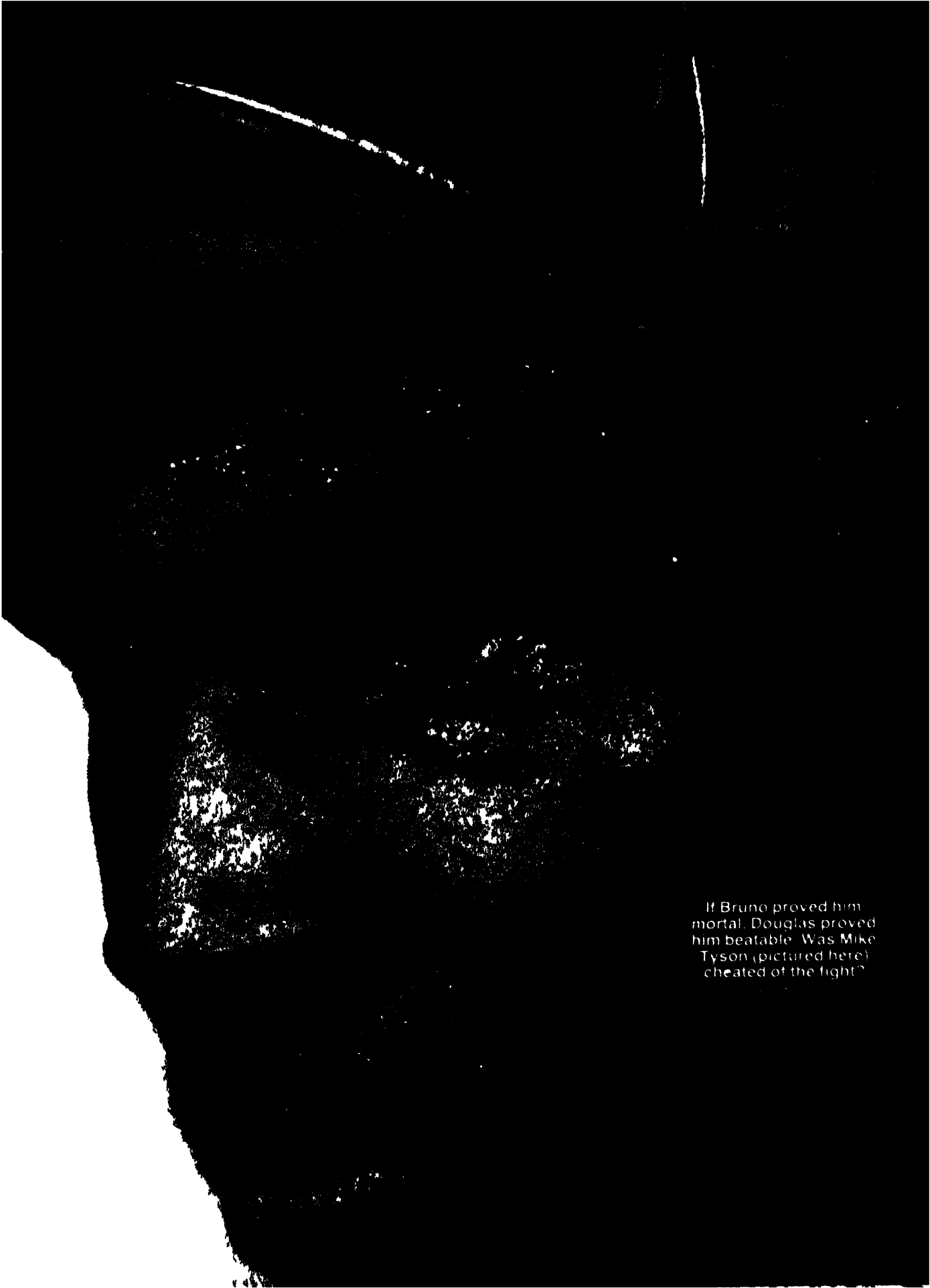
2) June 26, 1959. Ingemar Johansson stopped Floyd Patterson at New York city. Third round

3) February 25, 1964. Muhammad Ali stopped Sonny Liston at Miami Beach, Florida. Seventh round

4) January 22, 1973. George Foreman stopped Joe Frazier at Kingston, Jamaica. Second round

5) October 30, 1974. Muhammad Ali knocked out George Foreman at Kinshasha, Zaire. Eight round

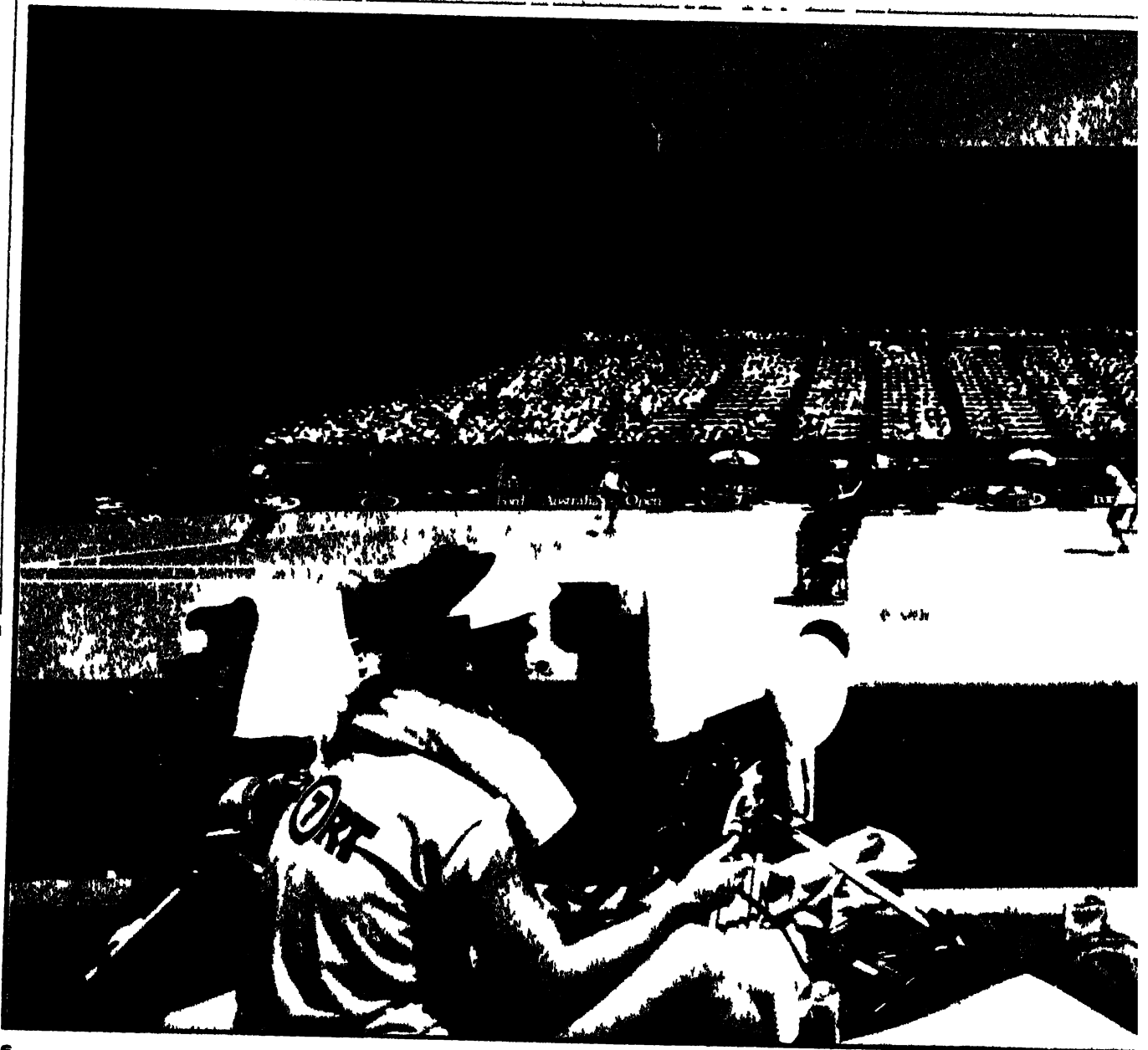
6) February 15, 1978. Leon Spinks defeated Muhammad Ali at Las Vegas. Fifteen round decision



If Bruno proved him mortal, Douglas proved him beatable. Was Mike Tyson (pictured here) cheated of the fight?

sport

IS FRONT PAGE NEWS
DOWN UNDER



**ohit Brijnath takes a look
t the Australian's crazed
assion for sport and
re great contribution of the
edia to it.**



TOMMY HINDLEY

AUSTRALIANS don't lose their perspective on sport even at one o'clock in the morning

The Qantas jetliner pilot guiding his plane through the murky morning darkness drawled out a greeting over the address system "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Melbourne, Australia's official candidate city for the 1996 Olympic Games"

The airport is no better Every time a flight is welcomed, or a departure called, the Olympics are mentioned Even the machines used to Hoover the terminals' carpets are emblazoned with the 1996 logo No one here obviously, is concerned with subtlety Everyone here obviously, is only concerned with sport

Sport in Australia is not just the average man's opiate It is a national addiction To sit in front of the telly or at a stadium tin of beer firmly clasped, shirt flung off, is unquestionably the Australian's definition of bliss

Bar room conversation never deviates—it is primarily and only concerned with muscles, left jabs, high service tosses, penalty kicks, great footwork, exquisite timing That unknown stranger in the corner could easily become an instant mate, depending on his opinions on the latest footie match And although there is no data to substantiate it,

Channel 7's tennis reportage was innovative but not too fancy

perhaps even some marriages are based on athletic preferences

Why, even political nominees here are advised to display an affinity for some game—simple logic really Like religion in India, it is something that affects every Australian A good base for a election campaign And moreover, should a politician require both exposure and a crowd, a stadium is his best bet

During the three weeks that I was there, this was apparent

Prime Minister Bob Hawke quite strategically at that, seemed to have his finger in every sporting pie First it was cricket, where his personally selected P M 's XI took on the Pakistanis He then flew from his capital Canberra to Melbourne to view the Australian Open tennis finals Having smiled there sufficiently, he jumped countries to New Zealand waved the yellow and green flag thumped fellow Aussie medal winners on the back, dined with others, and even did the odd bits of TV commentary Now, was it merely a coincidence that a mid term March poll was being deliberated Down Under? More millions would have watched him on television at these three events, then if he had swung a punch at Gorbachev at some unseen politician's convention

The media plays an enormous role in this area— it first creates the craving and then fuels it One incident which left me absolutely astonished on my

second day there serves as yet another reminder of Australia's priorities.

When I nonchalantly asked my host David McMahon for the day's newspaper, the section he threw across had the Pakistan-Australia Test as its lead story, stretching right across the front page.

Believing McMahon had made an inadvertent mistake, I said, "No, I don't want the sports section, I want the first and main section."

His reply was confounding. "That's it."

And that was truly it. Four days in the week, (approximately) the front page lead story in any Australian paper is sport related. Everything else, from politics, the economy, social issues, natural disasters takes a back seat. It is amazing, unbelievable. There is not another country in the world with which you can draw such a parallel.

The sports section is almost the yardstick of a paper's circulation. a rumour that caught my attention stated that Murdoch, the press baron, dismayed at the failure of one of his papers, doubled the sports section and met with immediate success. No wonder papers like the Sunday Age, for instance, have a mammoth 32-page section devoted exclusively to sport.

The writing does not have the incisiveness, depth and maturity found in the better American and British papers, but that does not stop it from being readable and entertaining. The prose is informal and relaxed,

Another image of Australia's yellow and green. Swimmer Michelle Ford with her koala bear

coincidentally the two words that perfectly sum-up the Australian.

Their writing is also, not surprisingly, highly ethnocentric—it is concerned primarily with Australia and Australians. Any world sports news not involving the yellow and green is quickly ignored. In five sports pages, Hadlee's record breaking 400th wicket was consigned to a few paragraphs in some unobtrusive corner.

One of the dangers of this, more marked though on television, is that while exhorting their own, they tend to mask fine achievements by other competitors. . .and this masking often takes on a contemptuous air.

Television, of course, remains the Big Daddy. There are four (or is it five?) channels and the competition for coverage is terrific.

In the 21 days I was there they collectively televised the Australian Open tennis, the Commonwealth Games, the Australia-Pakistan Test series, the Ironman triathlon series, a Victoria Football League (VFL) night game; the Australia-France Davis Cup tie, horse racing, harness racing, an international Yacht race, a soccer game between the Aussie Socceros and Soviets, the Super Bowl live from America and the odd golf game. Phew!

Channel 7 (tennis) and Channel 9 (cricket,



Commonwealth Games) were engaged in fierce battle over technological gimmicks and commentary style—Channel 9 having the edge in both areas, but any non-Australian would be appalled at their jingoistic reporting of the Games.

7 sports' tennis coverage was a treat...innovative but not too fancy. Apart from the usual cameras, they used an extremely high, nearly overhead camera to produce a new angle of play, and a small lense at the base of the net to give a stunning view of a player advancing to volley. They took the audience on enthralling journeys through, and beyond the National Tennis Center, once even recreating a finalists long and nervous walk from the locker room to

Center Court.
 Commentary anchor
 man Hugh Molvaney
 was dapper, smooth and
 erroneous, but had an
 interesting team that
 included former players
 Allan Stone, Cliff
 Drysdale, John
 Alexander and John
 Barrett.

But Channel 9's
 cricket remains
 unsurpassable...their
 commentary team, led
 by Richie Benuad, are
 thoroughly professional.

knowledgeable and
 highly entertaining.

They experimented
 with the
 camera-in-the-stump
 concept this season, and
 even though it requires
 a few modifications, it
 looks a sure winner.

Considering Channel
 9's scrupulously fair
 cricket commentators, it
 was strange to find their
 Commonwealth Games
 talk boys indulge
 themselves with some
 terribly biased and

prejudiced reporting.

When an
 Australian won it was as
 if sanctioned by God,
 and if he lost there was
 bound to be an excuse. I
 remember one
 particular piece of
 conversation during a
 boxing bout that
 astonished me. In the

**Cricket as usual was
 Channel 9's
 domain—and as usual
 they were the best**

early part of the first
 round, while the
 commentators were
 close to anointing their
 boxer as the next Ali, the
 Australian was hit hard
 by his opponent and
 forced to take a standing
 count. The commentary
 went like this:

A Can you believe it,
 our boy X is taking a
 standing count?

B—No, I can't believe
 it!

A—Yes, I agree he
 couldn't have been
 looking.

They obviously
 function within no
 limitations, for even the
 Prime Minister got a
 kick in the butt. After a
 stint in the commentary
 box at the bowling
 green, Bob Hawke's
 departure was met with
 these words, "It was
 good of Bob to drop by,
 but truly, he doesn't
 know a.... about bowls".
 Terribly discourteous.

However, it was
 merely an insignificant
 blot on an otherwise
 marvellous three weeks
 of high-tech, high
 quality television
 broadcasting.

And lastly, to the
 Australian people's
 great credit, despite
 their fanaticism for
 sport and unabashed
 devotion to their clubs or
 whatever, violence and
 thuggery, unlike
 England, are still
 unusual and infrequent
 occurrences at sporting
 events. It is a true love
 then, this one.

Perhaps then, no
 country, or rather no
 city, deserves the
 Olympics more than
 Melbourne. I will be
 there hopefully, with a
 beer in my hand, and my
 shirt off. To celebrate
 sport in a country that
 worships it.



PEOPLE

COLLESPORT



Chrissie and Jimbo: many happy returns?

IS THIS LOVE AGAIN

ROMANCE never dies Chris Evert and Jimmy Connors are coming together again The toast of the tennis circuit, Evert now retired and Connors the oldest man on the tour are both happily married to other people But they'll soon be reunited—as TV commentators

"We've known each other a long time and I'm looking forward to working with him," Evert said Jimmy is confident that they'll make a good team too "If we don't feel comfortable with each other then there's something wrong," he said So here's looking at you two in the idiot box

COLLESPORT



A HURDLE AT A TIME

ROGER Kingdom, easily the best hurdler in this day and age and has a world record to show for it was accorded the 1990 Jesse Owens International Award

The award is presented annually to an athlete, who best personifies excellence in athletic performances and promotes sincere co operation and understanding among peoples of all nations Kingdom who broke the hurdles world record in Zurich Switzerland, clocking 12.92 seconds, was almost an undisputed choice

AN EMOTIONAL BAN

BOBBOY Robson has been bringing about sea changes in the ranks of the English footballers who are all set to do duty for Queen and country in Italy

Apart from laying down stringent do's and don'ts in matters dealing with soccer he has also taken control of their emotions

"No more kissing hugging and jumping on the goalscorer," said Robson "This kind of thing is regularly seen on TV and only serves to incite the wrath of the spectators and leads to violence" It is bad for the game, for the fans and dangerous too I don't want to discour

COLLESPORT



age enthusiasm but a congratulatory pat on the back and well done is enough, said Robson But what's

going to happen to the team when the fans incite them? And we all know how the Brit fans are

Bobby Robson's emotional check on the players

LURING USHA?

P•T. USHA honoured in China! That is the truth, for our 'Golden Girl' has been selected by the China Sports Press Association as one of the 10 best sportspersons in Asia in 1989.

The gifts, consisting of an artistic Chinese tea set and tray along with certificates were given to the Indian Embassy to be sent across to Usha.

Usha, here in India is facing a dilemma whether to continue her athletic career or bow to her parents wishes and opt for matrimony. This has also been keenly reported in the Chinese rags. Is all this publicity in aid of Usha taking part in the forthcoming Asiad? Usha knows best. Maybe she'll finally get the Padmashri she so craves for.



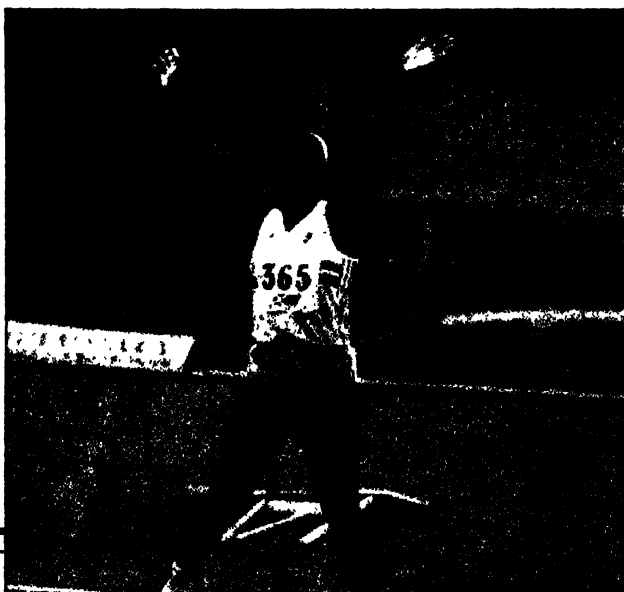
UTPAL SARKAR

TESSA Sanderson, the Commonwealth Games javelin gold medalist has quit the athletics scene on quite a sour note.

Tessa, at the time of announcing her retirement launched a stinging attack on her long standing javelin rival Fatima Whitbread. The reason? Whitbread and her mother had been coaching her rival, Australian Sue

Tessa parts with a stinging attack

TESSA'S LAST PITCH



COLLIERPORT

Howland "I couldn't believe that they would help someone who was an opponent," she said. There were others in the English team who could have benefited from that kind of help," she added.

Furthermore, Howland it seems had been accused of taking drugs earlier. So it seems as if Tessa's outburst was justified. Farewell Tessa and let bygones be bygones, you still have the gold medal.

First assignments are a pain in the well, neck. That's me, the rookie of the magazine who thinks that way. But in this magazine, so I am told, this is my baptism and thus it is unavoidable.

The boss tells me on February the first—those are his words, "Rob Lowe (nothing to do with the Hollywood sex symbol, unfortunately) you are going to Bombay on assignment. These are the stories you are going to do." Sure I said I mean I am capable of doing anything, am I not? I go out of the room and do a quick jig to announce my happiness. Then I enter and say, "So when am I going?"

I am approaching Calcutta airport, it's February the second, the place is crawling with cops. Hell, this is where the fun starts. "Sahub itna police kaheka?" That's the taximan. I don't know, I say. Ten metres from the airport, my queries are answered. Welcome Prime Minister V P Singh to Calcutta. That's just what I need.

Flight was supposed to leave at eight a.m. It's 10.30 a.m. Hey! I'm in the plane you know? Only problem is I'm still at Dum Dum airport. So I'm having fun, believe me! I mean it racking your brains and your imagination and thinking up fancy invectives at the airport officials, security et al is fun, then I'm having a ball.

February the third I wake up to a new day in as Remo Fernandes puts it *Bombay City*. Head feels kinda groggy—courtesy the warm

freewheeling

welcome accorded to me by my friends there. O.K. Robin get your act together, I tell myself and get on the job.

February the fourth, I'm at the Triathlon—I'm covering it you see, things are going real smooth, too smooth as I found out, something funny was bound to happen. Harsh (he's the hot-shot photographer) and me part ways. Four-thirty, we agree to meet at Palm Grove hotel.

It's two-thirty on the same day, the phone rings—very ominously, I feel. Hello err, hi. The conversation went thus: "I'm Harsh's friend, I have been instructed by

him to inform you that he's got heat stroke so he can't make it today. He says he's sorry. Heh, heh, too much of an easy life you know." Click.

The line got cut, no actually I had put the phone down. The rest of the evening went by in a daze.

Monday, February fifth I am still looking for a photographer. Have to meet Dara Singh (that guy scares the hell out of me). Earlier he had accepted my apologies with a grunt cos' I had ditched him. Today I have another appointment with him. Bumped into another lensman who goes by the name of

Dhanesh Thakkar. This guy is quite a concept. He should be preserved! He agrees to do the assignment, however.

We're zipping down Marine Drive on a contraption that looks like a scooter. Dhanesh speaks, "Yeh garī kaafi naya hai, chalta bhi bahut accha." Yeah, I know. The next sound that followed went something like this: phut, phut, phut. I thought,

Dhanesh was faster, "Petrol khatam ho gaya hai, koi baat nahī thoda age ja ke lehi lehnge." All this in one breath! This guy is as cool as a cucumber.

Tank full of petrol, what followed was a guided tour of Bombay, lanes, bylanes, the works. We finally reached Juhu and Dara Singh's place. We were already late and we saw the familiar sight of Hanuman oops Dara Singh coming out of his office. I went upto him and smiled, he beat me to it, "Bahut deri ho gaya hai aaj nahī," he was adamant. You do not argue with such people. So I left. Before I was heaved out that is.

Tuesday, February sixth, saw a very tired rookie journalist sitting on the plane to Calcutta. "Going to Calcutta?" asked a foreigner. Hee, hee, hee, I giggled at him like a demented idiot, a manic look on my face, "No, I'm going home." Next thing I saw was the air hostess changing his seat, hee, hee, hee.

The plane took off, I was normal again. I had somebody waiting for me back home. It was fun. Salaam Bombay.

Robin Chatterjee



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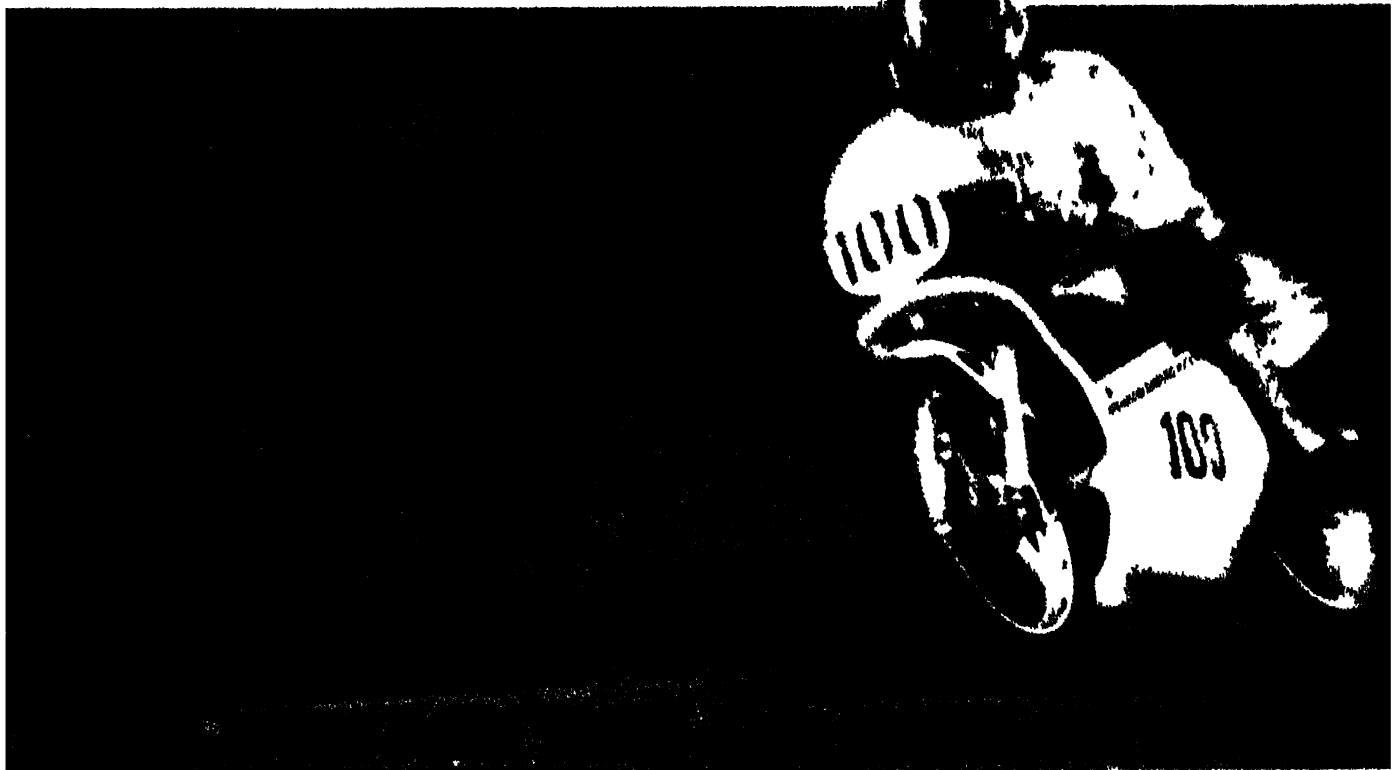
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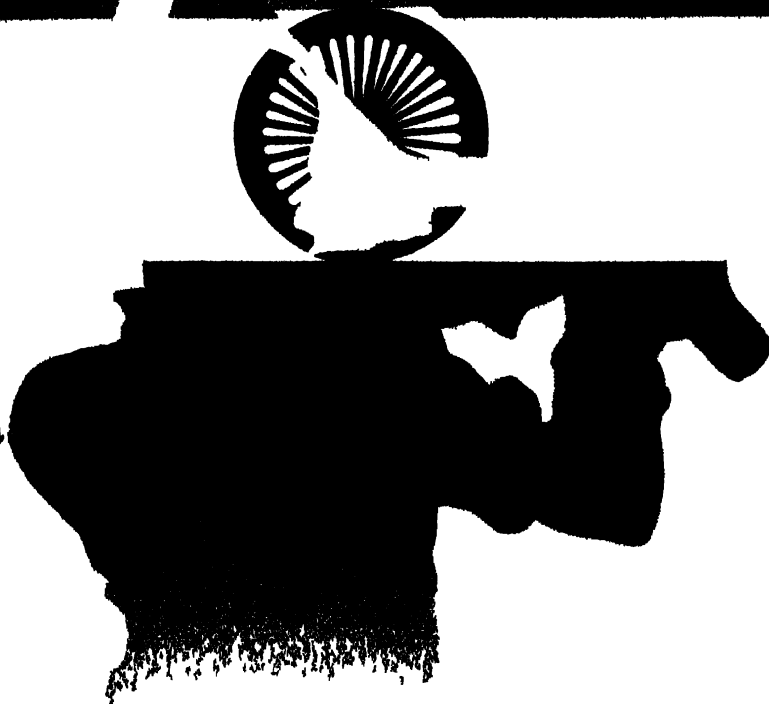
The Supra

ITS SKILLS ON THE RACE TRACK.



My Son Michael: An Interview With Joe Chang

Sportsworld



Cricket Test matches between India and Pakistan were resumed in 1978 to promote goodwill and better understanding between the two countries. More than 11 years later, the experiment appears to have failed. Each series now fosters more animosity than peace.

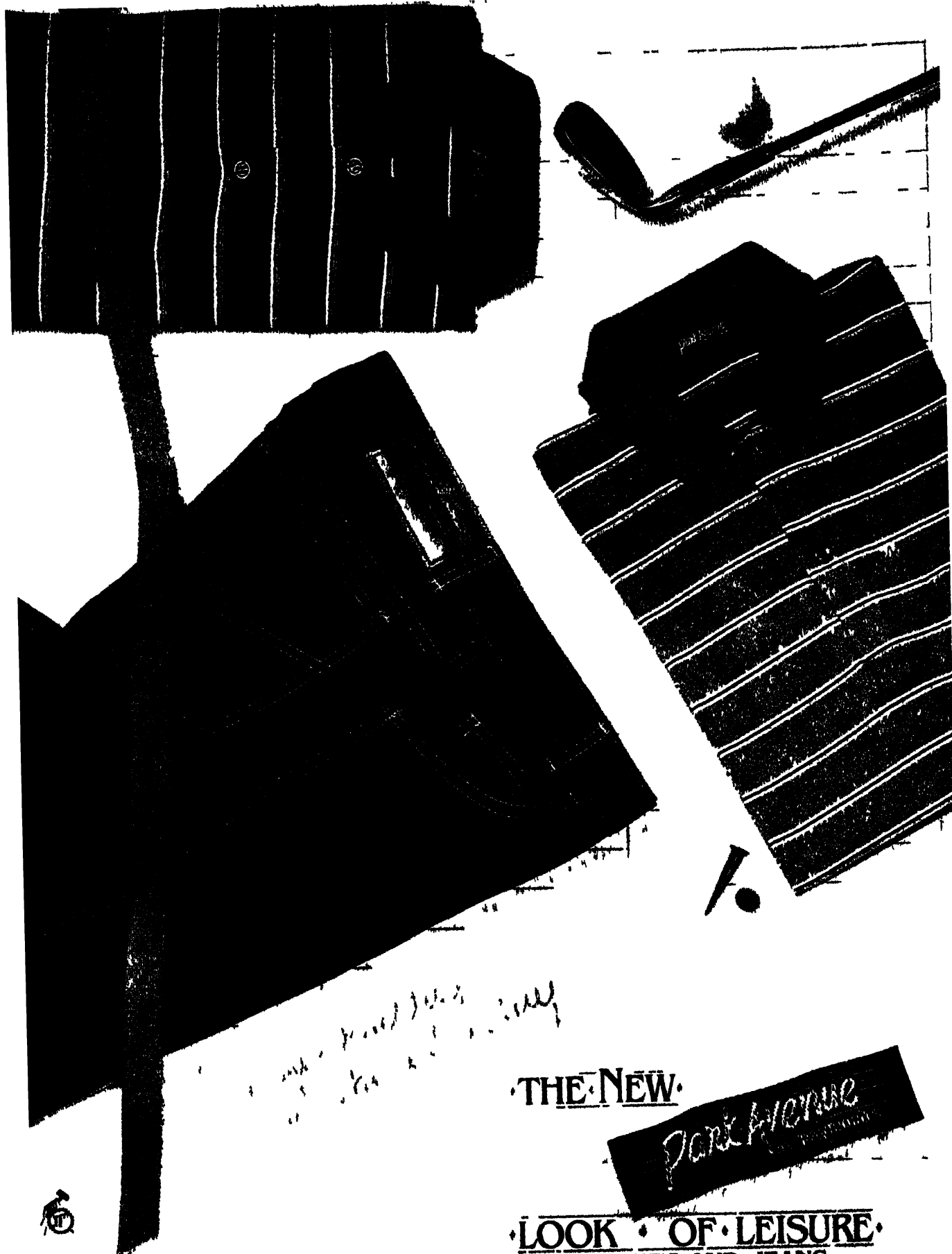
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE



And now the trouble has spread to hockey. In the Asia Cup in New Delhi and the recent World Cup in Lahore, players of the touring sides were targets for abuse and stones.

Since there is nothing but contempt for the sportsmen of the rival countries, the question is: Is it high time we stopped playing sport with each other?

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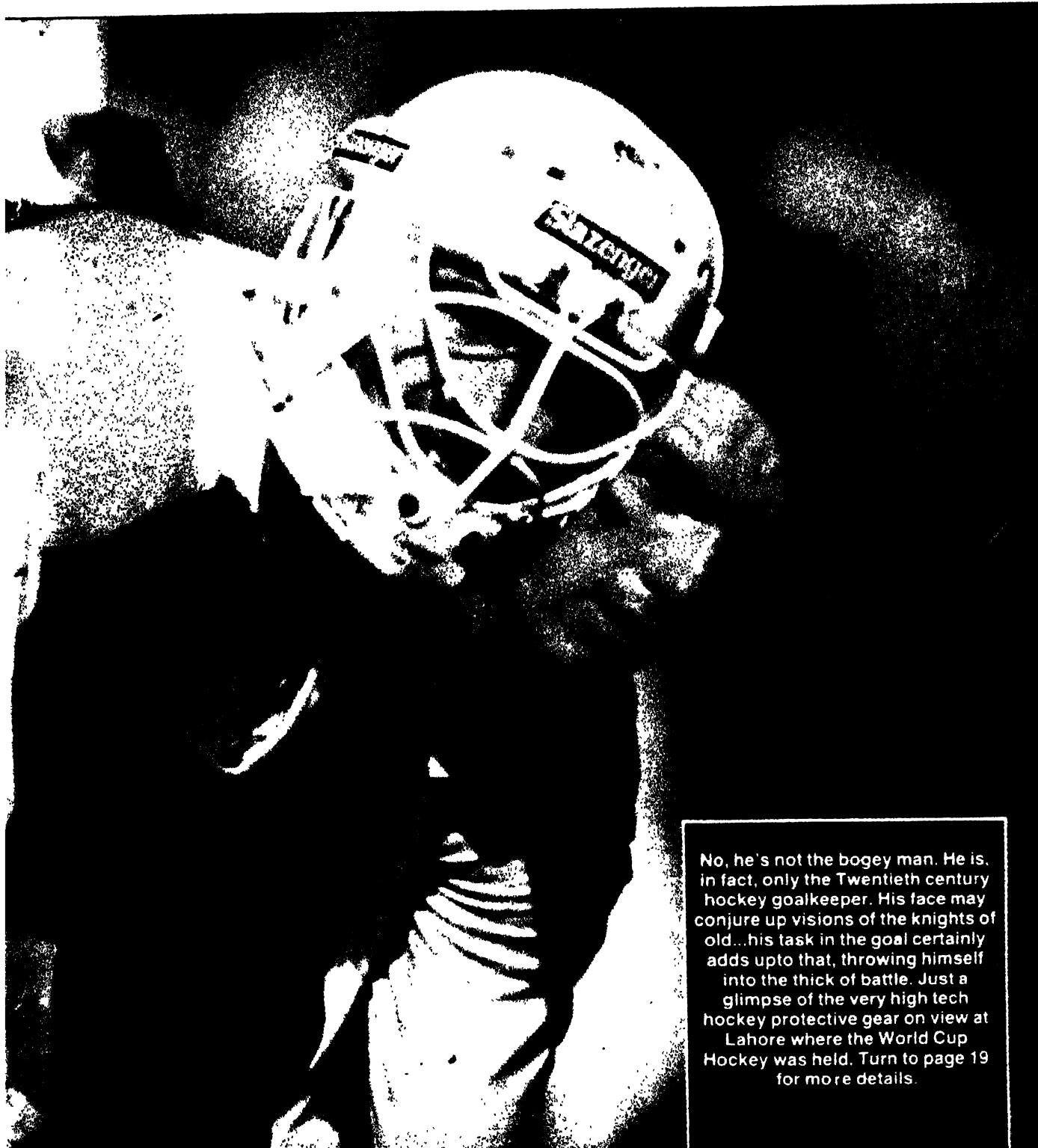
TOMMY H. NUTLEY

6 The Indian hockey team, during the Lahore World Cup, was abused and attacked with stones. The Indian cricket team last year had suffered a similar fate in Pakistan. Mudar Patherya debates whether it makes any sense to play sport with each other. Plus Andy O'Brien reports from Lahore

19 The cream of world hockey gathered in Lahore to fight it out for the World Cup. The battles have been fought tooth and nail, and the semifinalists have been decided—Holland, Australia, West Germany and Pakistan are still standing. India? Andy O'Brien fills us in from Lahore.

40 Gooooa! Yes, that's the cry one likes to hear from the crowd. Unfortunately, it doesn't happen too often these days and FIFA, soccer's governing body, are concerned about it. FIFA have now stepped up the hunt for goals so that we, the spectators, can enjoy the action more. That should be fun! Read all about it.

76 Michael Chang is the new teenage, tennis whiz kid. And no one knows his secrets better than his father Joe Chang; one of the reasons for Michael's motivation. Joe tells it like it is, straight from the hip, to Paul Fein.



No, he's not the bogey man. He is, in fact, only the Twentieth century hockey goalkeeper. His face may conjure up visions of the knights of old...his task in the goal certainly adds upto that, throwing himself into the thick of battle. Just a glimpse of the very high tech hockey protective gear on view at Lahore where the World Cup Hockey was held. Turn to page 19 for more details.



PRIDE AND PREJUDICE!

BY MUDAR PATHERYA

est matches between India and Pakistan were resumed in 1978 to promote goodwill and better understanding between the two countries. More than 11 years later, the experiment appears to have proved a failure. Each series now fosters more animosity than peace.

The Asia Cup in New Delhi and the World Cup in Lahore recently saw the players of both sides being targetted for abuse and stones.

Since there is nothing but contempt for the sportsmen of the rival countries, the question is: Is it high time we stopped playing sport with each other?

NOW that the cricket series against Pakistan is behind us, the timing is appropriate to ask: Was it worth it? More specifically, has the experiment of using Test matches to reduce friction and promote goodwill between India and Pakistan succeeded?

At the risk of making it sound abrupt, I don't think so. The more sporting (read cricketing) exchanges we have between the two countries, the more reasons one gets to advocate, that maybe it wouldn't be too bad an idea if the matches are stopped. The more we play each other, the more tension is generated. The fears of communal skirmishes erupting in India arise, and an element of hate is fostered on both sides of the barbed wire.

Test cricket between India and Pakistan has never promoted any goodwill. Instead each series has been, reduced to an attempt at one-upmanship whatever the means; reduced to showing the other country in poor light however you may do it.

It's time we called this experiment off. It's time we stopped playing each other. And it's time we gave peace a chance.

The author first toured Pakistan with Sunil Gavaskar's team in 1982-83 even before his twentieth birthday. He has flown across the border on four occasions since, spending considerable time in Pakistan and, in his own words, 'been through the thick of every major township in Pakistan—except Quetta and Bahawalpur'.

STARTED ON THE WRONG FOOT IN 1978

India and Pakistan resumed cricket relations between themselves after 18 years on the wrong foot in 1978. It was done ostensibly to bring the peoples of the two

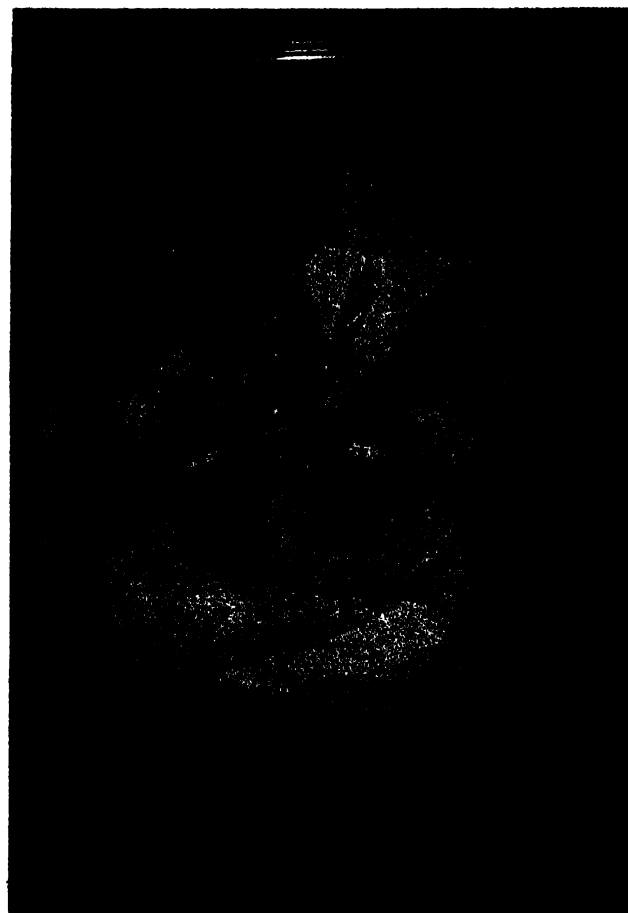
That 1978 series did not sail through without controversy. Bedi ordered his batsmen in and conceded the Sahiwal one-day international in protest. Bedi argued that Sarfraz deliberately bowled bouncers to Vishwanath just when it was becoming evident that Pakistan was going to lose. The umpires, he

to India immediately, but an urgent telephone conversation with the then Indian Prime Minister, Morarjee Desai, convinced Bedi to change his mind. However reluctantly.

The series went its dismal way for India and later, Bedi admitted that it was a difference of attitudes between the two sides that accounted for India's loss. India went to Pakistan hyped on emotions of goodwill and better understanding; Pakistan treated each Test as a 'jihad'. Their intensity to win was so naked that their fielders used extremely provocative language on the field, bringing the entire scenario to a stage where you began to wonder, whether the overall motive was primary, incidental or a non-factor. The stress on 'friendship', 'brotherhood' and 'new era' became increasingly irrelevant when you had spectators in Karachi and Lahore chanting 'Naara-e-takbeer' (a Muslim rallying cry) and Mushtaq Mohammed making a desperate plea on television to 'Muslims all over the world to pray that we win this Test'.

1979-80

When Pakistan returned that visit in 1979-80, the reception was warm, the hospitality lavish and the interest considerable. And yet... Asif Iqbal was guarded in his comments about the umpiring but did not go out of his way to compliment them either. Sikandar Bakht was



countries closer, and there you had the Indian captain, Bishen Bedi, complaining that his boys were spied on, the telephones were bugged and the overall playing environment was so hostile that, not surprisingly, his side lost 0-2. Experiment One had failed. Only, no one was admitting it.

Shakoor Rana has, in the eyes of many Indians, played a major role in the worsening of India—Pakistan cricket relations

insisted, were partial in not declaring the deliveries as no-balls. Bedi later confessed that he was so disgusted by this stage of the tour that he wanted to return

more forthright and kicked a stump out in disgust at Kanpur. One of their commentators Iftikhar Ahmed said "No team can win against India in India. Their umpiring is diabolical." Majid Khan reserved dignified, intelligent and articulate was quoted in a Calcutta paper that Pakistan would beat the same Indian side 5-0 if it cared to come over for a Test series across the border (with whose help was not mentioned).

1982-83

And coming to think of it, Pakistan did almost exactly that the next time the two countries met. Pakistan was easily the better team in 1982-83. Its rout

of India was complete (3-0) and yet there were murmurs. Indian Manager Fatehsingh Rao Gaekwad flew back to India midway—one whisper was that he returned to discuss the umpiring problem first hand with the BCCI, while the other indicated that his presence at a business meeting was crucially required. Not much later, we had a prominent Indian official (now dead) issuing a statement that he sympathised with our cricketers who were playing 13 Pakistanis.

During the series, Gavaskar confided to the Indian press that Sarfraz kept getting away with no-balls from debutant umpire Shakeel Khan's end and wondered what the hell

it was that made the ball swing alarmingly immediately after the tea and drinks breaks, especially when Pakistan was fielding. We knew what he was trying to get at.

Returning from this deserved Waterloo, the average Indian reaction was "Didn't their umpires do us in?" and "Obviously India can't have been to blame for all those lbw's and 'Amar Nath was clearly not out but ' Obviously the propaganda machinery had been working overtime while the team was getting beaten in Pakistan.

1983-84

The return series seven months later turned out to be a

Test cricket between India and Pakistan has never promoted any goodwill.

non-event in a certain sense. The first Test was interrupted by rain, the second at Jalandhar produced a yawn of a draw and the Nagpur Test appeared to yield a result, until as some say Zaheer put the brakes on Pakistan's chances of a victory and went home with a drawn series. The series was easily forgettable.

The only asterisk for the man with a social eye for detail was Zaheer's insistence that the to-be-drawn Bangalore Test be abandoned as



**HERO
HONDA**

It's time we stopped playing each other. And it's time we gave peace a chance.

soon as the tenth mandatory over was bowled, and the equally rigid interpretation by the umpires that the game continue until both sides agreed to call it off

The catch was on both India would have preferred to wait till Gavaskar got his century (he was in the 80s then) but Zaheer was annoyed enough to lead his team off. We are not playing this Test for the benefit of one man's landmark. He defended. The police

THE 'BADLA' SYNDROME!

THE harassment of India's teams in Pakistan and Pakistan's teams in India no longer seems to be an exception. Rather the trend

Throughout India's 1989 tour of Pakistan, spectators displayed anti-India slogans at the grounds. Things came to a climax during the Karachi one-day international

In apparent retaliation, the Pakistani hockey team which played in the Delhi Asia Cup a few days later, had to face banners, slogans and even stones from a section of the crowd

A Pakistani lady, on the flight to Lahore with me the other day, commented, "You greeted our players with stones. We shall welcome you with flowers." Even she had underestimated the prevailing sentiment

But whereas the protests were over the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi problem the last time, this time it is the Kashmir issue. If this badla syndrome does not end it may lead to the end of sporting visits between the two countries

From Andy O'Brien, Lahore

commissioner and the KSCA secretary on the other hand alerted him of the possible crowd fury if the match was abbreviated. Eventually Zaheer relented, trooped his weary side out of the dressing room, bowled a few more overs, gave Gavaskar his 28th Test century, said thank you (not) very much, and walked off again for the second time in 15 minutes. The Pakistanis were not pleased and showed it. Gavaskar and Zaheer may have been great friends but when it came to India playing Pakistan, neither yielded

But even that incident at its worst was only a pipe leak compared to

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THE GROUNDSMAN AS THE VILLAIN!

The man you see stooping in the picture is Basheer, the groundman for a couple of Tests during the series between India and Pakistan last year. He stirred a controversy of his own during the third Test at Faisalabad. The Indian team on an earlier-than-usual visit to the ground one morning discovered much to their chagrin that our friend was tampering with the wicket beyond the area of the popping crease. And the covers, which normally came off at



8 am when Pakistan was batting, covered the wicket till 9 am, allowing for more moisture to be retained. The Indian

explanation was that this would have made batting difficult.

The Indian team lodged a written protest to the BCCP.

Basheer, the groundman who was caught (supposedly) in the act!

Imran threatened to pull out of the series if the Indians continued with allegations of a petty nature. "If he had wanted to cheat, then why did we appoint neutral umpires in the first place?" he argued.

The eventual fallout of this incident was that Basheer was banished to Lahore immediately to save himself and the BCCP from further embarrassment.

the nuclear explosion of 1984. After the Lahore Test had been saved with Mohinder Amarnath scoring one of the finest fighting centuries by an Indian, Gavaskar went berserk. He issued a press statement that needs to be reproduced in detail: "It's a miracle this Test match has been saved despite the best efforts of the umpires. Before embarking on this tour, I had prepared myself for close decisions against us. But what happened in this Test is beyond me."

"I was reluctant so far to say anything on umpiring because umpires are human beings. Human beings are certainly prone to error. But in this (Lahore Test) case, it was not just a question of mistakes. We got the impression that this was all pre-planned and pre-determined."

"I know these are

strong words. I had not said anything on umpiring on this tour previously, although right from Quetta we have had some appalling decisions against us. Indian cricket's interests are much more dear to me than diplomacy. Indian cricket lovers who are not in a position to watch television should know what we are up against."

The Telegraph, Calcutta, in a strong editorial concluded that "It must be hard to face umpires who probably want to get even for the 1971 war." To all of us sitting even in the press box at Lahore the umpiring had definitely looked suspicious. For example, Gaekwad played forward, missed the ball hit his pad but he was given out caught. When Gaekwad, stunned, took his time to walk back to the

pavilion, Miandad asked him to XXXX off. Gaekwad turned around. The conversation went a few sentences further. Eventually the umpire had to separate the two.

It was that 1984 series which institutionalised the role of the Pakistani umpires at least in the minds of the Indian public. You asked any kid in India about that series and he told you what he thought about the role played by Messers Rana and Hayat. You merely mentioned umpiring at a Calcutta cocktail party and you found yourself at the receiving end of a half-an-hour uninterrupted monologue. "Those cheats," it invariably went.

By now the Indian conclusions were quite crystallised—the Pakistanis would stoop to any level to win.

Doctor their pitches and instruct their umpires and whatever else they found effective. The point is not whether those theories were justified or not. The tragedy is that within six years of reviving cricket between the two countries they were being made at all.

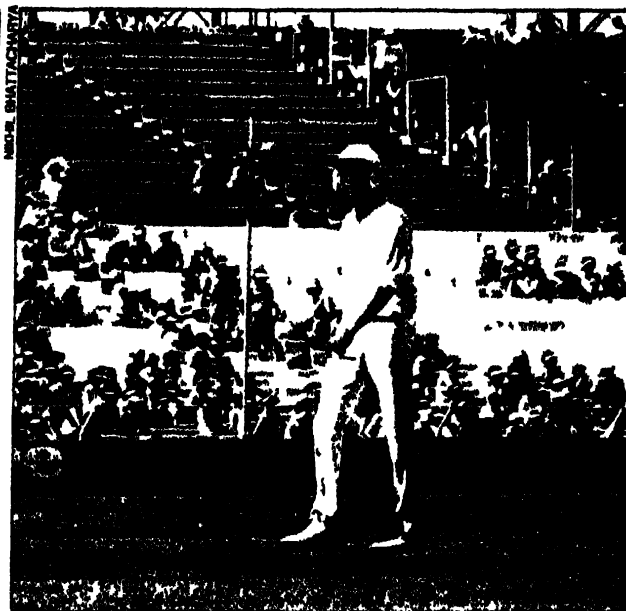
1986-87

Onto 1986-87 for Pakistan's tour of this country. Indians often argue how impecable we are as hosts, how the environment for playing the game is so liberal and how the paying public is knowledgeable and unbiased. This series exposed that line of thinking as absolute nonsense.

Let us see what Imran Khan has to write about the tour in his book *All Round View*. "When we arrived for play on the scheduled third day

(Jaipur Test), which followed the rest day, we found that overnight rain had seeped under covers. There were patches on one side of the pitch just on a good length for a left-arm spinner. The Indian cricket authorities wanted us to play but the umpires agreed that the pitch was not fit to be played on according to the rule whereby it has to be in the same condition as it was on the close of play on the day before. On the fourth day the umpires were overruled and the match restarted on a pitch that had not yet recovered sufficiently. The administrators did not want to make it obvious that the covering facilities were not up to Test standard. We made a written protest but it was overruled. There was nothing more we could do because General Zia was visiting Jaipur as part of his cricket diplomacy: an attempt to defuse tension between the two countries.

Worse was to follow in the next Test. The Ahmedabad crowd was fiercely anti-Pakistani throughout the match. On the fourth day some of the Pakistani fielders were stoned and I had to take the team off the field. We were able to resume play after a 70 minute stoppage only because the Pakistani deep fielders put on helmets to protect themselves against stone-throwing by the crowd. A few Pakistani fielders suffered gashes on their hands and had to be rushed off for first aid treatment.

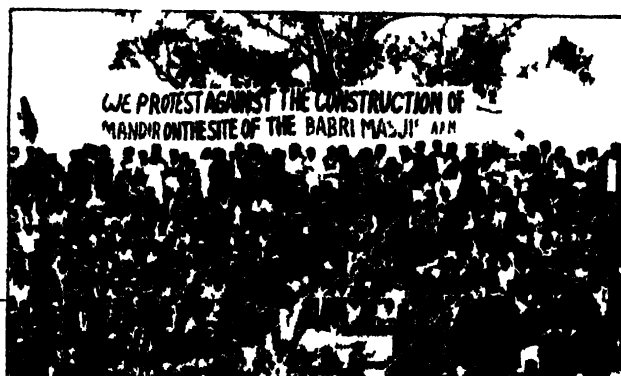


THE WORST OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

TAKE a good look at the two pictures. One was shot in India (Ahmedabad) 1987 and the other in Pakistan (Sialkot) 1989. They represent the worst both countries have had to offer through sport.

The picture above shows Wasim Akram wearing a helmet. The picture was taken when Akram was standing on the boundary line. The helmet was intended to protect him not as much from the ball as from the stones that the spectators kept throwing at the Pakistani fielders. The game was interrupted for more than an hour.

The bottom picture may not look as bad as the ones we carried of the infamous Karachi one day international. But when you consider that the organisers defended their not pulling down the banner, you will understand why sport between the two countries has become a mere vehicle for political and religious propaganda. **M.P.**



Which brings us to the series in Pakistan last November. During its course we kept telling ourselves that it couldn't have taken place at a more critical time with communal killings in India, especially Bihar, all it would take for some officious Pakistani politician to trigger controversy was a public statement that he was concerned with what was happening to the Muslims in India. And if that was not provocative enough, there was always the Jammah-i-Islami, capable of stirring trouble over the Babri Masjid issue.

It was this combined propaganda that pursued the Indian team wherever it went. And manifested at the venues in various forms. In the Karachi Test for example, a spectator jumped the fence (where was the police?), walked up to Arshad Ayub and asked him what being a Muslim was he doing playing for 'Hindu India' against Pakistan? That done he turned to Srikanth and attempted to punch the Indian captain (what far reaching measures would Imran have taken had a politically motivated spectator sneaked up and given him a kick on his backside at the Eden Gardens. I wonder Called the tour off? Possibly!)

If that incident was played down by the touring media the reasons were many. A certain responsibility was advocated by some in view of the delicate



Picture 1. The Pakistanis are convinced that Rizwan has caught Gavaskar. Mian Mohammad Azhar Khan (centre) has not even bothered to look at the umpire. But Imran (right) is beginning to have his doubts.

Picture 2. Imran's cap has come off. The face reflects frustration. Qasim (bowler) appears to be asking the umpire to consult his colleague at square leg.

Picture 3. Even the normally impassive Imran is arguing!

Picture 4. Iqbal Qasim can't believe it. He was convinced he had Gavaskar caught—only the umpire wasn't!

communal balance back home. Others went along with manager Chandu Borde's official (and naive) statement that the intruder was only a misunderstood enthusiast wanting to congratulate Kapil Dev on his hundredth Test match.

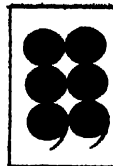
If after that disgraceful incident spectators found it a little difficult to get beyond the barbed fencing, it certainly didn't stop them from shouting pro-Khalistan slogans in Faisalabad, throwing an assortment of stones and fruit on

our fielders in Sialkot, and finally topping it with a banner which read "We protest against the construction of a mandir on the site of the Babri Masjid."

That particular banner, in fact, became the subject of a heated argument between this writer and the organising secretary of the Sialkot Test. Initially he denied there had even been any such banner! Later, he defended the organisers, saying there was nothing they could do had they posted policemen at the entrance to screen spectators and their belongings; there would have been a near-riot had they sent the police into the stands to confiscate the offending banner; there would also have been a near-riot had they sent the police into the stands to confiscate the offending banner; there would also have been a near-riot had they sent the police into the stands to confiscate the offending banner.

I didn't win much moral support from my colleagues in the press with my stubborn insistence that leaving the stands unpoliced was terribly risky. If a spectator could jump the fence and grapple with Srikanth in Karachi, what guarantee was there that there wouldn't be a stray

HOW THE MEDIA IS



In this context of ill-feeling on both sides of the border, the respective media must shoulder their share of the blame. If you are a Pakistani journalist reporting the series in India and should your

despatches be 'balanced' (i.e. no blatant anti-India stance emerging), you run the risk of being labelled 'anti-national' in your country. Anti-jingoism equals unpatriotism, equals being 'Pro-India'. If the balanced reporter is Indian then, God help him, he is denounced as a traitor and a pro-Pakistani.

Considering that few Indian journalists have the guts to be identified by their uncompromising viewpoints, the majority of opinionated literature that journalists despatch is, not surprisingly, pro-home.

One came across a disgusting incident of this kind from a journalist, of a leading Indian weekly, compiling a trivia column on personalities.

She poked on Imran for doubting the legality of Manoj Prabhakar's bowling action. This is what she wrote: "Look at it this way. You are a Pakistani playing India on home ground, but because this time there are neutral umpires, the Indians are playing rather well. What do you do? Option one: you invade the pitch, stone the Indians and blame it all on Ram Janmabhoomi. This is, as we all know, the Awami-suit equivalent of 'rain stopped play'. Option two: you accuse a top Indian bowler of 'chucking' and claim that the fellow has been faking it till now. Hard to believe? Not at all. Ask Imran who says, about Manoj Prabhakar, that he's not a bowler at all; 'I've watched videos and think he's chucking.' Fine. But why didn't the umpires



AP/WIDEWORLD

ALSO TO BLAME

notice? "Because they were neutral umpires," says Khan sourly. Precisely.

The slant of this item more-than hinted at Imran's (supposed) jingoism. Yet the irony is that even Indian journalists confessed that there was definitely a kink in Prabhakar's action, in fact even cricketers on the Ranji circuit have complained privately that Prabhakar chucks the faster one. Would you accuse those Ranji cricketers of being anti-national?

To sum it up, when you have the journalist of a leading national publication propagating the argument of Imran's jingoism at a weekend social gathering, the range of the viewpoint is limited. But as soon as you write about it, the impact is altered. You now have readers, a majority of them ignorant about the game, jumping to conclusions and denouncing the Pakistan captain as an absolute cheat!

I use another instance to prove my point. Srikanth was given out leg before to Sarfraz at Hyderabad (Sind), 1982-83. The batsman hesitated, then walked back. Immediately, the correspondent of a vernacular Indian daily, sitting behind the wicket long-off boundary exclaimed, "Worst decision of the series!"

From his position it was impossible to confirm whether the ball would have missed the stumps or not. But there you are: the reporter had spoken, and one suspects the point was made with authority in his despatch to a waiting readership of 2,00,000 in India the next morning. And the sample reaction at breakfast tables in our country? "These bloody Pakis..."—what else?

M.P.

communal lunatic waiting to throw a brick on an Indian fielder in the next match? Or a firecracker. A petrol bomb. Or even fire a shot.

Vulnerability to an attempted assault. What's what I was trying to convey. What if someone had actually fired on say Tendulkar? Could you have blamed the average Indian if he indicted the whole of Pakistan for one incident of lunacy? Would our share of fundamentalists and communalists have spared Pakistan the resulting embarrassment?

I stress this point because something nearly as dangerous transpired in the Karachi one day international that followed. Stones were thrown, the police intervened using tear gas and the match was abandoned.

However, the damage had been done. Pakistan's diplomatic corps in Delhi was summoned by the VP Singh government's relevant ministry to apprise them that India didn't approve of what

had been perpetrated on its cricketers in Karachi. I even heard a few Indians say 'Let them come here and we'll show them Vengeance'.

And one didn't have to wait long for a practical demonstration. The Pakistani hockey team then in India for the Asia Cup went out of its way to establish a rapport with the crowd and create a favourable impression. They did a lap of the ground before the match and threw flowers to the spectators. And what did our spectators do? Abused them instead!

The mindless behaviour continues. When the Indian hockey team practised during the World Cup in Lahore a few days ago anti-Indian slogans were raised. The Ministry of Home Affairs, Pakistan, instructed the Indian players not to leave their hotel to refuse invitations and even decline gifts. Now my question is: Do we need to play sport between the two countries and pretend that we are making a significant contribution to peace?



HATE

In view of the
prejudice
the honest
neutral
series last year, but
there is a further
interpretation to this
decision. Test matches
between India and
Pakistan had been
resumed in 1978 to
improve relations and
promote goodwill and
here we were, within 11
years, making an
undisguised admission
that we had no faith in
each other's honesty and
integrity. We
trusted two Englishmen
to do a fair job rather
than half a dozen
Pakistan umpires. It is
in this context that the
appointment of
third-country umpires
for the 1989 series was a
sign not of progress or
success but failure.

And no incident
reflected these
conflicting emotions
better than during the
Lahore one day
international on 22
December. Srikanth
was given out leg before
Pakistan umpire
S. R. Holder and
Srikanth had flown
back after the Test
series. Instead of
leaving immediately he
stood arguing that he
had played the ball onto
his pad.

Enter Imran Khan. He
told the umpire that he
had heard the tick onto
Srikanth's pad and
requested the umpire to
reverse his decision.
Shakoor Rana
immediately
semaphored Srikanth
to return.

For all those Indians
who proudly recall that
one of their captains
(Vishwanath) was
humble enough to recall

...the first to hit Imran and the poor umpire on the metaphorical axes if the edge had gone unheard and Srikanth not been invited to bat again!

That Lahore incident proves another point. A multitude of our cricketers from the sub-continent overlook the fact, that you can abuse the umpire, throw a fit and get into a near-physical confrontation without a serious fallout if the opposing team is New Zealand or Australia or England. As soon as the opposition is India or Pakistan, each such incident falls under a different microscope. Not only is the incident magnified, the impact on the minds of the respective supporters is occasionally disastrous. Would Indian supporters be able to watch in passive equanimity if Javed Miandad clobbered Kapil Dev on the head? Nothing as serious has as yet transpired but the Miandad—S. Vishwanath confrontation (Hyderabad) and the Younis Ahmed—Gavaskar altercation (Ahmedabad) probably went some way in building the element

of favouritism here, and would repeat. But as soon as a decision went against the general expectation of the spectators, it took one lunatic to shout:

'Pakistani chor hai!' and 'Pakistan hai hai'. Another joined in, then yet another and finally what you had was an entire section of the crowd getting into an

uproar. It was not a decision against the spectators in the stands with an angle or two; he could donate blood to a kidney patient in Karachi; he could coveries in their own language (Urdu and Punjabi); he could vibe well with General Zia and, better still, laugh at a wisecrack made at his own expense. The Pakistanis warmed to him.

Gavaskar, who was captain in 1982-83 and 1984-85, carried his dignity well, was a man the Pakistanis respected and even admired, but he wasn't the guy the average Pakistani could thump on the back and share a joke with.

Srikanth in 1989 was a happy-go-lucky and down-to-earth honest soul. But when it came to understanding the place or the language, he was at a loss. Neither did his side make a conscious effort of moving beyond the perimeters of their hate to improve the Indian image in Pakistani eyes. Pressures of saving the series, one supposes.

CONCLUSION

What do you do then? Maybe two opposing captains committed to winning the other country's confidence as well as the Test matches for their own; two captains going beyond the cricket to woo the public; two captains demanding nothing less than impeccable ambassadorial behaviour on the field and off it; and two captains dispensing with phrases like 'them' and 'us'. Maybe then there may still be hope. ●

READERS' DEBATE!

WE would like to publish readers' opinions on the controversy whether Test cricket, why even sporting ties, between India and Pakistan should be discontinued.

Do you think that sport between the countries is worsening relations? Or is sport the only thing that can improve the equation between India and Pakistan?

Letters should not be more than 200 words, should be typed or neatly handwritten and addressed to:-

Readers' Debate, *Sportsworld*, 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700 001.

demanding to know why Gavaskar had not been given out. And we have also had a few members of the Nehru Cup-winning Pakistan team making a doggerel of the Indian national anthem with their hotel room door wide open in Calcutta. It is these half-wits who are occasionally as responsible as the politicians for planting misconceptions on both sides of the border.

TROUBLE!

And gradually when things reach saturation point, it takes a minor incident to spark off trouble. India was playing Australia in the Reliance Cup with umpire Khalid Aziz officiating. No question

impromptu orchestra of hate. Within a few days, Pakistan played Sri Lanka in Faisalabad with Indian umpire Rambabu Gupta standing and you had a few hundred spectators there raising slogans against India. Mindless, but what can you do?

O CAPTAIN!

Maybe there is something that can be done about this problem. It would help if we had a captain like Bishen; someone who made a conscious effort to win over the Pakistani public. Perhaps he had quite a few advantages over the later Indian captains—Bishen could publicly humour the Pakistanis; he could crack a joke

'ONE OF THE MOST

SAUTAN BHATTACHARYA,
Amrita Bazar Patrika I was apprehensive of rude and anti-Indian Pakistanis before I flew to cover the cricket series in that country last year. However, the warmth of the average Pakistani surprised me. It was quite like Bengal in this respect. My most touching memory of Pakistan took place in Faisalabad. I had an ear infection and was treated by a doctor there. He refused to accept money for his treatment. In fact, most people I spoke to there felt that the rift

between the two countries was the handiwork of the politicians. Hum to bhai-bhai hai, they said. The recent stone-throwing incidents in Lahore appear to be instigated. However, we should not forget that we did the same to them in Delhi.

INDRANIL BANERJEE, *Sunday* You have to judge Pakistanis by two different yardsticks. At the man-to-man level they are extremely warm and friendly. On the

Six Indian journalists on the country that is Pakistan

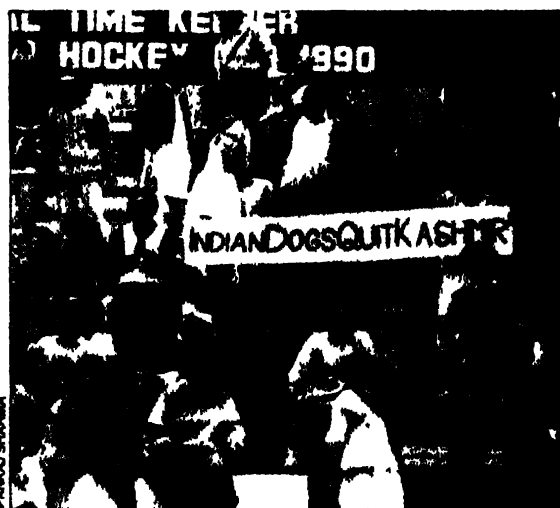
political and religious level they become very different. They feel strongly about their *mulk* and *qaum* and surprisingly harbour strange notions towards India. They feel that Hindus are out to finish Pakistan and that the Indian Muslim is victimised.

DEBASHIS DUTTA,
Aajka

With the exception of Bangladesh, I have

not across a more hospitable set of people. Even in Sialkot last year where we were under near-house-arrest because of security problems, ordinary citizens came up to say that we were their 'brothers'.

MUDAR PATHERYA:
The Pakistani hospitality has been embarrassing. We journalists, travelling with the Indian cricket team, have had shopkeepers



EVEN though India went down 3-5 to Holland in the Lahore World Cup, it was not as sad a day for Indian hockey as it was for the sporting relations between India and Pakistan. Playing the last game of the day, the Indian team was subject to extreme harassment from the large number of spectators who had stayed back precisely for that purpose.

Jeered. Boed. And the victims of missiles thrown onto the ground. The Indian team eventually walked out of the stadium when the half-time hooter was sounded. It appeared that they were not going to continue, but better sense prevailed. The Indian team could easily

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have refused but coach M P Gangash defended: 'We have come here with a commitment and we intend to honour that.'

What actually put a lid on the situation was the announcement that the International Hockey Federation (FIH) had warned the organisers that if the situation was not brought under control, the match and the tournament would have to be called off. The appeal to maintain Pakistan's prestige was the only thing that held back the vicious and almost fanatical crowd at the National Stadium in Lahore. The stands were full of the flags—the Pakistan one, the flags of Azad Kashmir (Pakistan-held) and the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF). One fanatic even managed to elude the security and parade the JKLF flag along the perimeter of the astro turf. He was escorted off the ground with little or no punishment.

Slogans like "Indian dogs get out of Kashmir", "Kashmir bauegaa Pakistan", "VP Singh kutta hai" and "Indian dogs go home" were raised constantly around the stadium. Two Indian tricolours were burnt among loud cheers. The crowds even made a surge towards the official Indian flag which flew with the other flags of participating nations, but armed personnel circled off the area around the pole.

Stones and pieces of wood were thrown at the Indian players and the Indian bench. Even

HOSPITABLE COUNTRIES'

in Multan refusing to accept money. We have had friends there travelling 30 miles by car just to organise hot vegetarian lunches for us. We have had the managing director of the PIA ask if he could be host to us in Mohenjo-Daro—don't talk of buying air tickets, please! We have had PIA ticket personnel go out of their way to put us onto chopper-bloc flights. We have had perfect strangers walking up and asking if they

could host us for dinner. We have had friends in Karachi refusing to let us stay in hotels, putting us up for a fortnight at their places.

'Scratch the surface and there is hatred for the Indian'

Sadly, in the pursuit of a political solution, sport has been martyred. They don't fight wars on the battlefield any longer

ANDY O'BRIEN: They are the best hosts one can get. They are proud of their hospitality which is understandable considering their politeness and generosity with which they treat their guests. The 'mehmaan' always gets top treatment. This not even the committed Indian patriot will deny. Yet, scratch the surface and there is this hatred for the Indian. If the opinions of the local people are to be believed, the dislike is

not as much for India and Indians as much for the government and the Hindus.

L.P. SAHI, The Telegraph: On a personal note, I haven't encountered any hostility on the three trips I have made to Pakistan. One was perhaps shadowed occasionally, but never intimidated. On the contrary, I have been touched by the warmth of the innumerable Pakistanis I have met, some of whom I count as my good friends.

THE DAY IT WAS DANGEROUS TO BE AN INDIAN IN LAHORE

the security cordon could not intercept a barrage of missiles as soon as the Indian player approached the bench at half-time.

Both teams were escorted off the pitch under heavy guard. The Indians had their doubts (real fears) about returning. The game had taken the back seat. The fanatics were in control. It was only the announcement of a possible cancellation of the tournament and the accompanying prestige loss that calmed things down.

It was an hour after the match that the Indian team was hustled into a coach marked 'Holland' on its front wind screen and sent to their hotel.

The game resumed amidst booing and slogan-shouting. When the situation hotted up during the second-half, another announcement brought the fever down. 'You have expressed your sentiments on a national issue, but we have a responsibility as host of the tournament,' the appeal went. Meanwhile, another tri-colour was burnt above the Indian bench. The reserve Indian players were moved to behind the Dutch goal. Immediately after the game, some of the

spectators gathered outside the players' exit gate and continued their slogan-shouting. Armed security people cleared the area and appealed to the people to move and take their slogans and banners and wait somewhere on the route of the Indian team coach.

Two buses were sent off as decoys. It was an hour after the match that the Indian team was hustled into a coach marked 'Holland' on its front wind screen (written twice in bold letters). The Dutch players meanwhile had been sent off in an unidentified coach.

The delay and the camouflage was good thinking. When the security chief was asked about the delay, he very casually replied, 'the Indian team is relaxing and having a good time inside. They will leave whenever they wish.'

If Ganesh and his lads were indeed in that state of mind as the officer made it out to be, they ought to be presented with the 'Bharat Ratna' for bravery beyond the call of civilian duty. As one Dutch journalist said, 'It is impossible to play hockey under these circumstances and pressures. It's your life that you have to protect. Hockey is only a game.'

The organisers must thank themselves that India did not play Pakistan in the course of the tournament.

From Andy O'Brien, Lahore

BETTER TO SUSPEND CONTACTS'

BY ANWAR SUDANI, SENIOR CORRESPONDENT, THE MUSLIM,
PAKISTAN

THE growing incidence of communal violence in Indo-Pak sport by small sections of crowds are damaging the cordial ties between the two countries

The exchanges of teams between India and Pakistan has proved beneficial for both. And for more than one reason. Besides strengthening relations the two countries enjoys the same culture. It is cheaper for both nations to send a team across the border for exposure rather than send it to Europe. A hockey encounter or a cricket match between the two traditional rivals also attracts huge crowds.

However, the incidents that occurred in the recent past have left much to be desired. Being a journalist I have come across a number of people in India and Pakistan who have condemned such happenings. According to them these will not serve any purpose.

They are of the view that if the current trend continues these incidents will set relations between the two countries back and the efforts by the two governments to bring the people closer will be wasted.

It is an allegation that a handful of people who indulge in such incidents are being used by political parties to serve their purpose. The fanatics do not realise that this only brings a bad name to their own country.

To set the record straight the recent disturbances started when the India-Pakistan one-day international at Karachi's National Stadium was abandoned when a section of the crowd protested on the hotly debated Babri Masjid-Ram Janambhoomi issue.

Earlier too a bearded man was caught by the police at the same venue when, despite heavy security arrangements he managed to enter the field supposedly to congratulate Kapil Dev on his 100th Test. While seeing the man rushing, skipper Srikanth rushed towards the scene to grab the man but before the police could intervene the two had a scuffle in which Kapil lost his shirt buttons.

The retaliation of the Karachi incidents was witnessed at Delhi when the Pakistan India clash during the 3rd Asia Cup final at the Shivaji Stadium was marred due to the pelting of stones and oranges by a section of the crowd. I was present at both these occasions.

That was not the end of things. As the Pakistan team was going back to its hotel after winning the title for the third consecutive time it was chased by some people riding motor cycles. They pelted stones at the windows of the bus, injuring some players and officials.

Later, in Lahore, slogans were raised against the Indian hockey team during the hockey World Cup. On the other hand Pakistan under-19 cricket team returned after undertaking a successful and smooth tour of India.

Considering the present political situation it may be a better idea to temporarily suspend India-Pakistan sporting contacts. Otherwise the people who bring internal political issues onto the sporting field might further endanger the relationship between the two neighbours.

'...People who bring internal political issues onto the sporting field might further endanger the relationship between the two neighbours'

Indian Hockey: Apocalypse Now

THIS is no obituary for Indian hockey. For it is not dead. Not yet. But it is diseased and the Indian Hockey Federation is deceased, says Andy O'Brien reviewing the Indian team's performance at Lahore

THE symptoms have been there for many years. Many a prescription has been written. Yet the cure has not been found. There was always hope that the patient would recover. But hope alone is insufficient medicine. The Lahore World Cup performance has virtually placed Indian hockey on its deathbed. The patient has to be saved. And now for too long we have hoped against hope that the

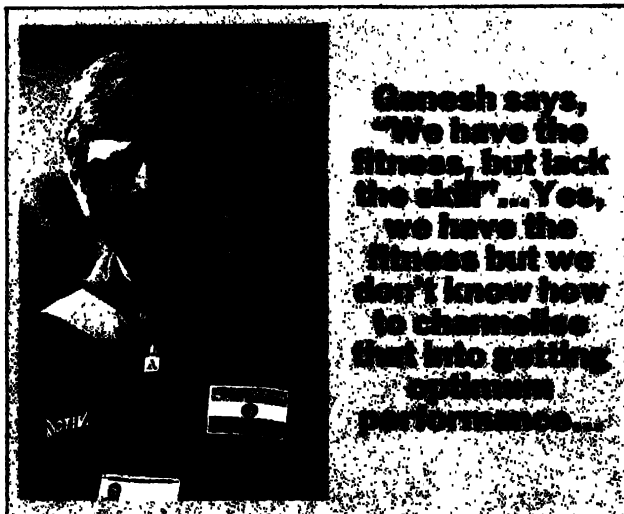
national team would one day come back to corner the glory that once was second nature to Indian hockey. Year after year,

our team has improved only to be humiliated by the faster improving Europeans (and now even South Americans).

The cure is not simple, but the initial dose should be applied rightaway. A foreign coach has to be put in charge of the Indian

national team. It would surprise many if one were to say that there was nothing tragically wrong with the Indian players at Lahore. Yet we ended up with a measly point in the group 'B' games not managing a single win. What was lacking was a few finer points of the modern game and to a larger extent tactics. The Indian team still strives in vain to outplay the opposition by their skill without taking into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of their opponents. It is here where a foreign coach scores over the Indian variety.

In the opening three matches that India played at Lahore, against USSR, Argentina and France, they took the lead, but failed to hold on to it. Granted there was a lot of genuine bad play by the players. Pressures off the field were not really conducive to good performance, but had the Indians done their



Genesh says, "We have the fitness, but lack the skill". Yet, we have the fitness but we don't know how to channelise that into getting optimum performance...

The Indians had no concrete schemes to follow



homework well things would not have been so grim.

At every international hockey tournament the Europeans and others display new innovations and ideas which bend the very complicated hockey rules to the fullest. Yet, India never had anything new to show. At Lahore, one new innovation was the penalty corner conversion, a dummy is sold and the ball is pushed to a waiting player who again uses the push to score. It was only during the tournament that Indian coach M.P. Ganesh realised how effective this form of play was. But since his players had not been trained in the method they failed everytime they experimented with it. In fact, the new strategy as seen in this tournament largely influenced the high number of penalty corner conversions. And this was one vital area where the Indians lost out.

Conversely, the Indian defence could not help giving away excessive penalty corners to the ever efficient penalty corner machines of their opponents. There are two reasons for this both

Though the Indian defence boasts of Pargat Singh (in picture) yet right through the tournament it was being described as shaky...

And for this coach Ganesh is squarely to blame...

of which are to do with tactics

Firstly, India unlike the other teams, plays the same brand of hockey and the same tactics all around the field. The Europeans and others play according to which part of the pitch the ball is in. For instance, within their own 25 yard and their circle, safety is the watch word since the

players that in the danger zone it is 'safety first' and not 'save the situation at all costs', perhaps Lahore would not have been such a bad experience after all. For example, take the game against Holland which ended in favour of the European champions 5-3. The Dutch forced six penalty corners, four were scored off and one was converted into a

deliberately pushing the ball into a defender's foot. With the Indian defence jittery inside the striking circle and the opposition using these 'negative' tactics there was no hope in Lahore. And India did nothing to counter these.

It is in these spheres where our coaches lack and a European coach can, if given the chance, mould a team that apart

the coach tells him to do. Ganesh adheres very strictly to this policy. It is impossible and illogical in modern hockey to have one man thinking about a national team and its performance.

Every team present at Lahore had in its ranks a coach, a manager who is a superior hockey tactician and an expert physical trainer. Each

JAGDISH YADAV



The Indian team still strives in vain to outplay the opposition by their skill without taking into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of their opponents. It is here where a foreign coach scores over the Indian variety

new rules are very strict on infringements inside this area. Though, the Indian defence boasts of Pargat Singh, who, by any standard, must be one of the two Indian players who are world class, (the other being centre forward Jagbir Singh) yet right through the tournament it was being described as shaky. Perhaps if it had been drilled in to the

penalty stroke goal. Against Argentina eight penalty corners were conceded by the Indian defence.

Secondly, to supplement penalty corner efficiency, the new method is to play merely for a penalty corner award. The moment one is in the opponents' Dees, the idea is to hustle a penalty corner even if it means

from its skill can play to a plan. There is a saying in modern hockey that a team's performance depends on how close it planned to the plan. The Indians unfortunately had no concrete schemes to follow.

And for this coach Ganesh is squarely to blame. It is perhaps built in the Indian hockey system, that a player merely carries out what

sits separately and sometimes one of them sits in the stands and walkie talkies are used to keep in touch and exchange views during the match. Yet the Indian officials, coach Ganesh, doctor Bipin Bhallar and others probably do not know anything about physical fitness, and manager Kumaresh Sen's only plus point is that he is a



very polite man. He knows nothing about hockey or how it is played.

Possessed by a genuine desire to see the good of Indian hockey, Ganesh unfortunately lost all control of himself. He selfishly wanted to concentrate power in his own hands and therefore no one else was allowed to think about Indian hockey.

Ganesh has, no doubt, brought about a high level of discipline in the team, but in his obsession for discipline he lost sight that every player must be allowed to grow mentally and physically. He made the Indian team the fittest team ever to play for the country, but he also produced a team of unthinking, unimaginative robots who were switched on and off by him when required.

In modern hockey a good player is always the one who is a

Ganesh (in picture) has brought about a high level of discipline in the team, but in his obsession for discipline he lost sight of the fact that every player must be allowed to grow mentally...

thinking player. Ganesh in his zest to do miracles for Indian hockey on his own hindered the mental growth of his players. If there is one reason for Jude Felix's sudden stagnation then it is that he was not allowed to grow mentally as a thinking player, and one of India's greatest drawbacks at Lahore was the inefficiency of

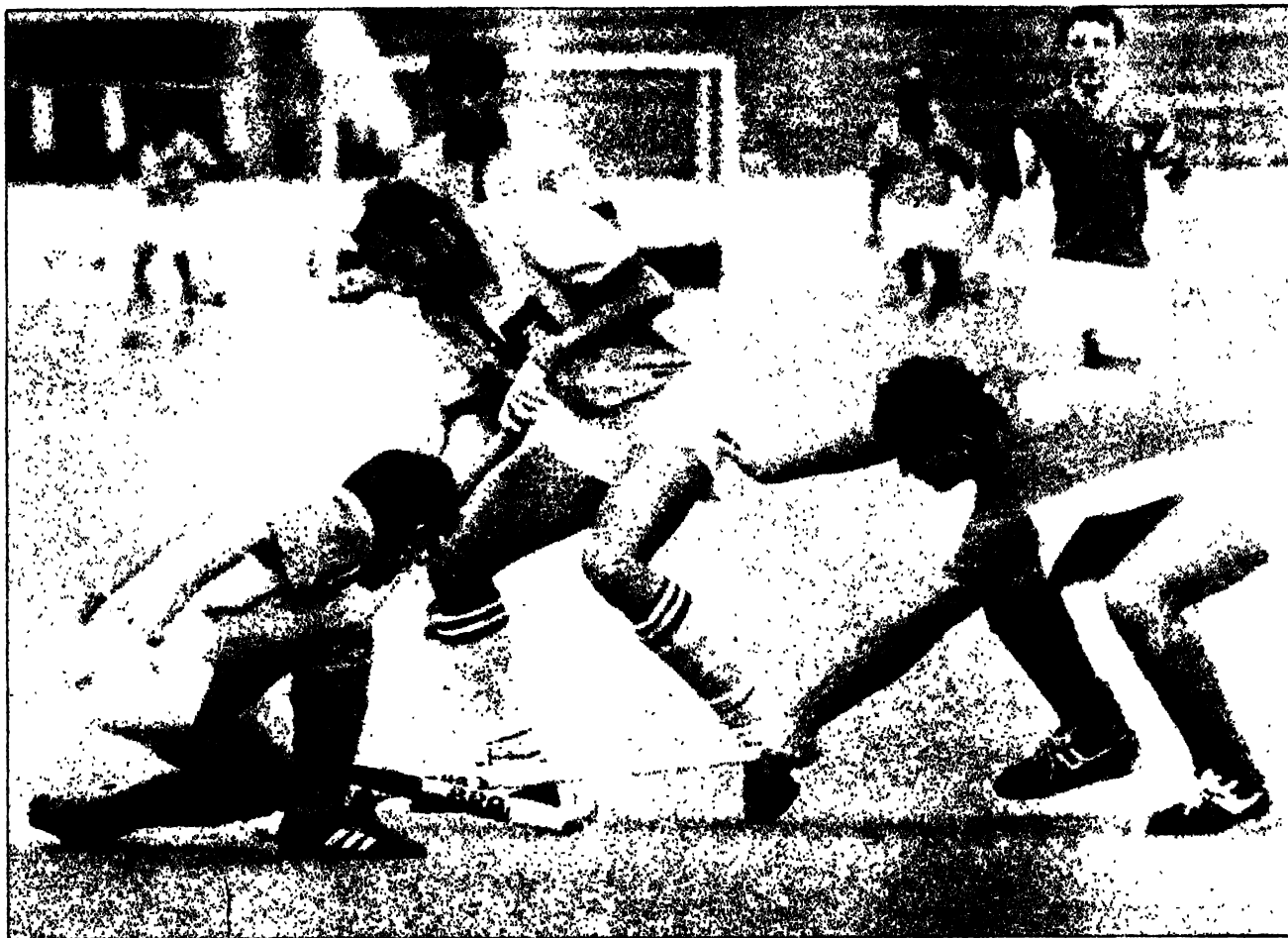
the normally exuberant Felix.

The whole coaching concept in European hockey is to make a player understand and think for himself, but we in India, instead, stifle this growth.

In spite of what many may feel, marathon training camps do not necessarily foster a player's growth. This criticism is not a new one, but it must be repeated so as it does not lose its importance. Consider this, it is generally accepted that an Indian player is superior in skill to his counterpart in the West. And if this Indian team is physically fit, then why are we having problems? Ganesh says "We have the fitness, but lack the skill." Pretty revolutionary words for an Indian hockey coach, but in fact, it's all balderdash. Yes, we have the fitness but we don't know how to channelise that into

getting optimum performance at the right time. How can one even expect a player to spend almost his entire youth in a training camp, then be asked to play throughout that period at a level which will help keep his place in the Camp, and finally expect him to peak several times a year and a hundred times in his career?

Take the case of the Lahore tournament prior to which was the Asia Cup in November. Our system required that a player would have to 'peak' for the selection trials a week before the Delhi Asian tournament, then 'peak' again for the tournament itself, follow it up by peaking in the beginning of February this year for the Lahore selections, and then carry on the good work throughout the month of February in Pakistan. It is a physically impossible proposition.



No wonder our players were a jaded lot during this tournament. There were times, especially after their setback against Argentina when it seemed our boys were merely going through the formalities of playing the game. Of course, the problems arising from the political complications made matters even worse. But let us not make that an excuse for the disappointing performances. Rather let us use this to serve as a warning to Indian hockey. It is obvious that we have fallen way behind the others and before we drop even further let's get on with the plan to save Indian

hockey.

And the first step has to be a foreign coach. There is much criticism:

Is it not logical and practical to sacrifice a little pride by having a foreign coach rather than be humiliated time and again because of the insufficient knowledge of our Indian coaches?

India's Jagveer Singh gets the better of two USSR players

against this suggestion, it has been said that it is a question of national prestige that an Indian coach trains the national team, after all we have such a long tradition in the game. But is it not logical and practical to sacrifice a little pride by having a foreign coach, rather than be humiliated time and again, because of the insufficient knowledge of our Indian coaches? What is national prestige? Having an Indian coach or finishing last in a tournament? And don't forget, we are not only doing badly but will

continue to slide further down the ladder of world hockey if the present situation is not rectified immediately.

IN modern sport it is winning that counts, not who your coach is. The Dutch, in spite of their abundance in coaching talent, have reportedly approached legendary Australian coach Richard Agass to take over their team when coach Hans Jorritsma and manager Joost Bellart retire after this World Cup. In fact, the Dutch have gone a step further. They have hired a professional football player to supervise their physical training programme. The Malaysians have



Ram Prakash being looked after by teammates

opted for the services of former Australian forward Terry Walsh to raise their national team from the pits of world hockey. The Irish rely on Dutch coach Cees Koppelaar to guide their national side. World hockey is gradually becoming like European club football. The best coaches get the best jobs regardless of nationality.

Professionalism is the need of the hour and though coach Ganesh has done all he could have, within his limitations, he should be the last Indian coach for the national team for the next decade or so.

Ganesh has the commitment. But that is not all which is required in a good coach. "I have no excuses", he says about India's performance.

"Let us discuss the problems that we face."

There are definite indications that the Indian Hockey Federation is seriously considering the idea of a

No wonder our players were a laded lot during the tournament. There were times, especially after their setback against Argentina when it seemed our boys were going through more formalities...

foreign coach and many Europeans have been approached. The process and negotiations may take a little time, but if the IHF drags its feet on this one yet again, as it has done for the last 12 years when the idea of a foreign coach first cropped up, then bye bye Indian hockey. I think you're gonna die.

There is a school of thought who are of the opinion that a foreign coach would not solve India's problems, especially in the long term point of view. Firstly, because he will be training 25-30 boys at a time which would not really help the general growth of the game in the country. Secondly, Indian hockey will never be self-reliant, if it is to depend on foreigners.

The theory being put forward is that instead

of a foreign coach for the national team, India should hire an expert to oversee the general development of the game in the country which includes intensive coaching of Indian coaches.

While there is logic and truth in this, it does not take into account Indian conditions. Firstly, it is now part of the Indian system that the popularity of a sport depends on the performance of the national team. Therefore, if it takes 10 years for our foreign experts' knowledge to filter down to grass root level and in those ten years the national team performs increasingly badly, there will be no grassroots left.

Secondly, India is too vast a country for one person to lead a crusade for better Indian hockey.

There are, of course, the internal politics and bickerings in the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF). Will the IHF not interfere with the coach's functions since in effect it will be the foreigner who will be running hockey in the country? What then is the solution?

Perhaps what can be considered is hiring two like-minded European experts, one to look after the national team and to assist the other in organising a development programme for the rest of the country. It is, of course, an expensive proposition. But then what price are we prepared to pay to bail out Indian hockey?

Cutting (Penalty) Corners

THE war over the penalty corner is still on. The Lahore tournament further emphasised the fact that conversions of penalty corners is what matters most in hockey today. Critics feel this overemphasis and importance attached to the penalty corner will bring about the end of the field goal and eventually the death of hockey "What we don't need is a person practising 2000-3000 penalty corners a week", says German expert Horst Wein

But others have a different opinion. Former Australian forward, Terry Walsh who now coaches the Malaysian national team feels "if a person can practise and perfect penalty corners, why can't players practise and perfect field goals?"

"It's unfair to think the penalty corner to be an undue advantage.

After all, those who are experts work very hard to perfect the art. How many forwards score field goals through practise"? Walsh asks.

Legendary penalty corner expert Paul Litjens says the reason for the increasing importance of the penalty corner is that so many scoring chances are missed from the field. "Why can't you ask the players to score more field goals, instead of stopping the penalty corner expert from doing so," asks Litjens.

But the truth is simple. In both the semi finals not a single field goal was scored. Seven goals came through penalty corner conversions and one from a stroke which followed a penalty corner.

After his team was defeated by hosts Pakistan, the Australian coach Frank Murray summed up the

situation well: "The Pakistanis made better use of their penalty corners we didn't, that was the difference." Holding back the tears in his eyes, Murray continued: "You have to convert penalty corners if you want to win."

'Khalistan Zindabad'

The Indian hockey team originally told not to step out of their hotel did have some contact with the outside world towards the end of the tournament. They found a novel way. Instead of going around in groups and attract attention, some players went in twos and threes. But most of them didn't risk doing even that. The three turbaned players in the team, Pargat Singh, Hardeep Singh and Jagbir Singh, found out that unlike others, they could move about quite freely in Lahore. As they walked down

crowded roads people often shouted slogans like 'Khalistan Zindabad'. As a result Pargat and Co were the only Indian players who actually got opportunities for some shopping in Lahore.

Oh, and did you hear this one: Ram Prakash Singh claims that during India's match against Holland, when the Pakistan crowd went berserk, even shoes were thrown at the Indian players.

Reverse flick

IT was ironic that the two runners up in the league stage met in the final of the World Cup. Both Pakistan and Holland had lost one match and drawn one during the league games. Pakistan had lost to West Germany and drawn with England, while Holland lost to Australia and drew with Argentina. On the other hand, both the losing semi finalists had topped the groups with an all-win record. For West Germany and Australia it was their first defeats in the tournament. But unfortunately, it was during the knock out stage. The final incidentally was a repeat of the 1978 World Cup held in Buenos Aires in which Pakistan beat Holland 3-2. In that tournament, the fourth World Cup, Holland had accounted for Australia and Pakistan for West Germany in the semi finals. This time the roles were reversed.

Andy O'Brien



"Penalty corner is in a complete mess...It's being

Hockey Nee

Of late the frequent rule changes and the development of hockey as a television and spectator sport has come into sharp focus and debate

Broadly, there are two schools of thought, one that believes that the game is progressing at a satisfactory rate and that any further changes in rules would merely complicate the game and the spectator even more

The other more vehement school is convinced that if there are no immediate changes in rules then hockey will die as a spectator sport in a couple of years. The latter propagates a set of rules that will simplify the game so that the spectator and the television viewer will comprehend what is happening, rather than depend on the umpire or the commentator. Some of the changes being suggested are revolutionary, but the supporters of this group believe it is essential for the survival of the game and they are going about Lahore promoting their views.

Things really became intense amid news that two of the most influential officials of the international federation were scheduled to arrive in the city. The FIH president, Etienne Ghichitch and Hon General Secretary, Juan Calzad

The revolutionary thinkers are led by the West German coach Horst Wein, who says he has a strategy planned out which will put pressure on the FIH to consider some basic rule changes.

Speaking exclusively to *Sportsworld* Mr Wein, though very secretive about his plans, said "The game of hockey is a product which is very difficult to sell these days, because the rules of the game cannot be perfectly interpreted and mastered by the coaches and the players.

"There is not much space or time for the players to show their skill or their intelligence. Several TV channels are not even interested to have live coverage of a hockey match because they know that during half the coverage, the ball is not in the game. And in each tight game there are at least 200 interruptions which occur at an average of eight seconds between each other.

Wein, who is considered to be the man who has practically shaped modern hockey, blames everything on the rules which he says are, "very difficult and confusing to everybody, including the umpires."

Wein's general idea is to "make a few adjustments to the rules to make the product more understandable, more attractive, more spectacular and more

financially viable."

When pushed to disclose the suggestions he is going to make to the FIH, Mr Wein disclosed that one of the major changes he was gunning for was reducing hockey from an eleven-a-side game to an eight-a-side game with an equal bench strength, where the players can be substituted anytime and as many times. Just like they have in basketball.

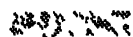
This will give a player time and space to show skill, intelligence and his physical fitness.

"Hockey today is out of balance. Physical fitness outweighs all other features of the game," says Wein.

In spite of the many and frequent rule changes that hockey has undergone over the last decade, the West German expert is of the view that while the game has progressed, the rules have not been able to keep up.

Explains Wein, "The rule changes have affected the game to some extent, because it has become so difficult that 80 per cent of the television commentators can't sell the message to the viewer. They don't know whether it is a goal or not. They have no answer for a mistake made by a player because nobody can see it but the umpire. So, instead of following the ball, the spectators are now asked to follow the signals of the umpire.

Celebrated German Coach Horst Wein deplores the present unattractive style of hockey and insists, in an exclusive interview with Andy O'Brien, that changes must be made in its rules



done for selfish reasons..."

Needs a Facelift

Even the players sometimes don't know, and look towards the umpire "

If one were to follow the matches here and the crowd reaction, it would seem that there is more than an element of truth in what Wein says

The other aspect of the game which Wein intends to change is penalty corner which he says is, "in a complete mess. It is being done by some people who do not want hockey to become more popular. It is being done for selfish reasons

The latest rule change according to which the goalkeeper is allowed to raise his stick above shoulder height is a Wein contribution to the

game, something he says he fought 16 years to get through. How long he will take to get his new ideas accepted will be gauged by the reactions to be witnessed in Lahore over the next few days. But Wein is determined to change the game and the rules which he says are "unable to promote the game of hockey or to encourage youngsters to play it, because they are far too complicated and they have too many exceptions and are illogical"

Wein claims massive support for his cause here in Lahore. "It is time to tell the people of the imbalances in hockey. To make the people more aware of the

wrongs in the game. I have received great support from many experts and in Lahore the number is increasing from day to day."

To win Indian support Mr Wein contends, "The eight man game with a constant inter change of players would be a good thing for Indian hockey in the future. If Indian hockey supports the suggestions I am to make, then it will have a good chance to recover quickly. Indian players will have more space and more time available to show their skill. Because skill would then have become a dominating factor in hockey and not physical fitness. Because when one

Indian player is tired he can go out for a few minutes and can be replaced by a fresh player."

Wein's penalty corner ideas are also far reaching and he says it will benefit Indian hockey. "When Indian hockey officials agree with my new penalty corner rule—that the ball has to be placed on the goalline and pushed towards the 25 yard line and from there moved in towards the circle and scored at any height than the Indian brilliance and technique will come good. And there will be nobody in future on the goalline, because three defenders together with the goalkeeper are urgently needed to stop the attack of the six, seven or eight attackers. So it is very easy to understand. When the ball is in the net it is a goal otherwise it isn't a goal."

Wein goes on to promise that with this "the stadiums will be packed and there will be terrific money. The coaches will be better paid and there will be a chain reaction which will take the game into a different sphere."

But the point is will the Europeans allow their hold over world hockey to be taken away by a visionary whose sole aim is to better the sport regardless of which teams are at the top? Lahore might have a few answers to this over the next few days



EXCLUSIVE

"IF I WERE IN CHARGE OF INDIAN HOCKEY"

BY HORST WEIN, WEST GERMAN COACH



HOCKEY without India and Pakistan is a dull affair for the game needs the exotic touch of the Asian forward going through a European defence like a knife through butter. What we don't need is a person who practises 2000-3000 penalty corners every week. The International Hockey Federation has for long appreciated the big promotion that India and Pakistan provide their game. Even today when people on the street in Europe hear the word hockey, they associate it with India and Pakistan. However the IHH should try and involve the Asian administrators more so that they too can have a say in the future of the game.

I worked my brain over time right from 1966-72 with various national teams including the West German team to break the Asian hegemony over hockey. But I realised that to beat them we needed to accept some of the finer points of Asian hockey and amalgamate it with our style.

Yet now Indian hockey has come to a stage where it is looking for an European coach for the national team. I strongly feel that the Indian team does not require a foreign coach. What is necessary instead is a foreign coach who will train the Indian coaches and think about a model for the development

Horst Wein, West Germany's coach is considered as the revolutionary genius of modern hockey. A great admirer of Indian hockey, Wein makes some positive suggestions on how India can improve and compete with the rest of the world on equal terms

of Indian hockey. A model which will guide a player from the beginning through the national team. And this development plan

should be made available and understandable to all the local coaches so then there is a system and uniformity behind the coaching. Not everybody can do whatever he likes to do.

The whole structure of competition in India has to be revised because it is not stimulating progress or preparing a player for international competition. That is why you have such long training camps. Training and trainers come only after you have a productive system of competition. Otherwise your training is redundant. There is a gap between training and competition in Indian hockey.

Now we have to start from scratch in India and first try to find for each group a competition which respects the mental and physical state of the individual. The training should prepare you for the competition which in turn shows you how you should train for the next competition.

If India makes the mistake of

hiring a foreign coach then it will be wasting money because he will only be training 30 players. And Indian hockey will continue to live on the experiences of a foreign coach. Instead, you must have somebody who will train everybody, who will train millions of players through his tutorage of Indian coaches. The foreign coach gives the local coaches a different focus but the work remains with the latter. So there will then be a mix of European focus and Indian mentality which will surface in your national team within ten years.

I am now for instance a technical consultant to the Italian Hockey Association and I go there only for three days in a month And in these three days I inform the coaches about all the new developments and trends in hockey, give them training programmes and try to put them on the same level as that of the best coaches in the world. I have to convince them that a certain tactic, exercise or drill is better

I strongly feel that the Indian team does not require a foreign coach. What is necessary instead, is a foreign coach who will train the Indian coaches and think about a model of development for Indian hockey

than the one they are using. When they are convinced they go out and spread that through out the country.

So you don't need a man who is always there But somebody who will guide the coaches This will one day bring Indian hockey to the same level as the Europeans and at the same time make it independent of foreigners

We in Europe have always been dependent on Asian hockey We have learnt and stolen a lot from Indian and Pakistani hockey

Why are they so shy in trying to get something back from us I don't know. It's only a game. Hockey is not life but pleasure A show which can only survive if India and Pakistan remain somewhere on top of world hockey.

For the last decade or so Indian hockey is not aware of its problems and they are progressively losing more and more ground to the foreign teams. While Indian hockey is travelling on a private plane, the others are on the Concorde already And as time passes, Indian hockey will loose more and more contact with the best teams unless something is done immediately

I had been approached by Aswini Kumar at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984 to help out with Indian hockey I even met the Sports Minister I said 'Yes', I was interested and that I would go. But nothing happened I hope they don't make a similar mistake this time

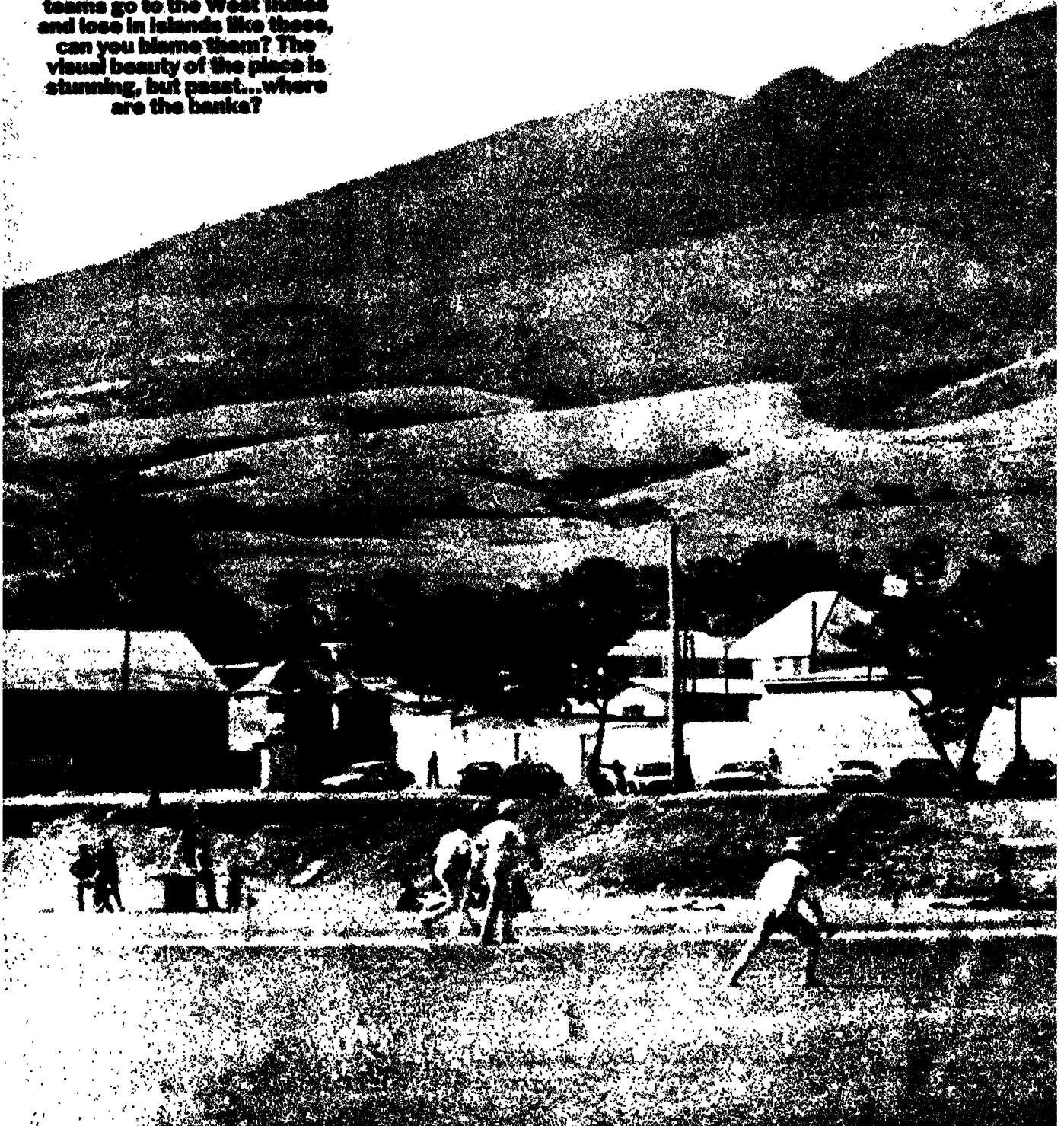
As told to Andy O'Brien in Lahore



KNOCKING OUT

Patrick Eagar mails us the pictures which con

That's St Kitts for you! You can watch from the road, you can sit at ground-level or you can clamber atop a makeshift wooden box and video-shoot the match (extreme left)! If teams go to the West Indies and lose in islands like these, can you blame them? The visual beauty of the place is stunning, but what...where are the banks?

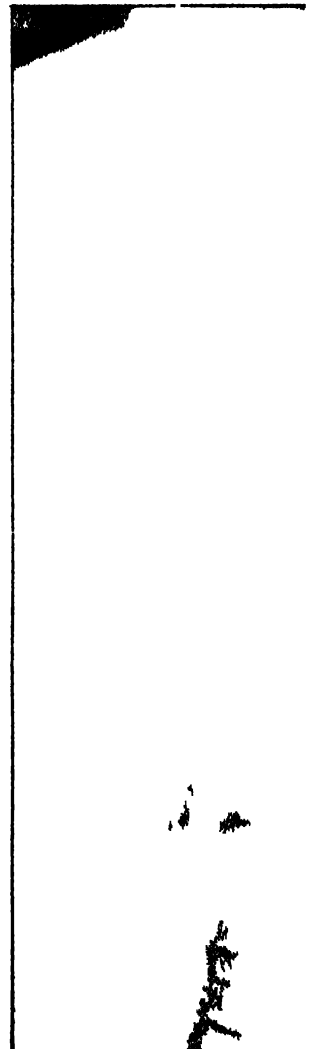


HEAVEN'S DOOR!

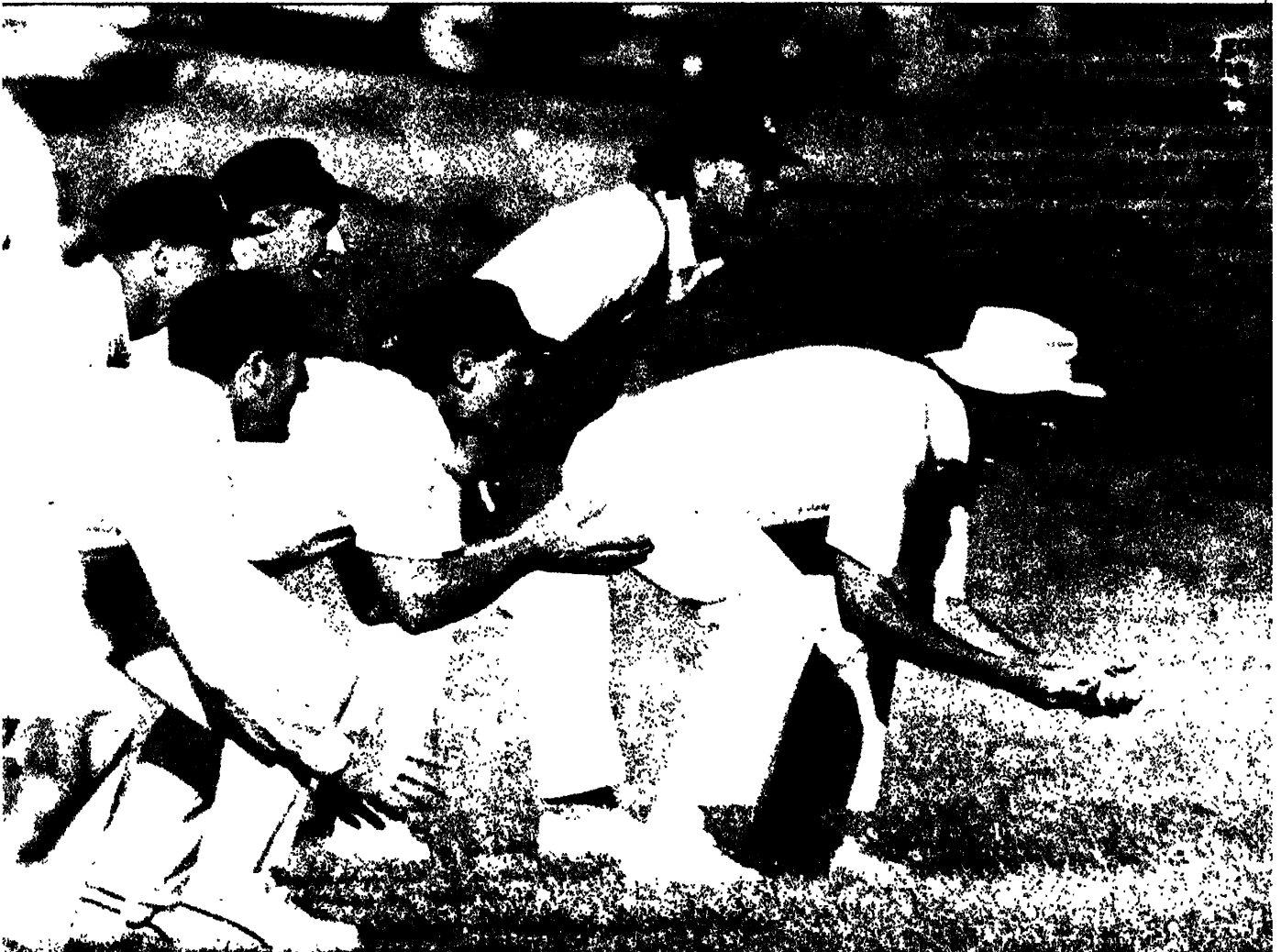
why the Caribbean is almost paradise.



Okay, it's Richie Richardson
alright in the match at St
Kitts. But what's that 'MRF'
cap doing in the picture?



**Not the West Indies, fool!
Just when Gooch and his
commandos were soaking
in the sunshine of the
Caribbean, the ground at
Wercester was soaking in
something else. Arrrr!**





Jan Higgins

CHARMINAR CHALLENGE ALL-INDIA LADIES GOLF

Jan Higgins' Best Battle



Vandana Agarwal

FOR Calcutta-based Vandana Agarwal it was a case of so near and yet so far in the 73rd Charminar Challenge All-India Ladies Amateur Golf Championships. At the lush green Delhi Golf Club, she emerged runners up in two events. A leading contender for the national title, which she was yet to win, Vandana lost a closely-contested final to Jan Higgins of New Zealand, 3 and 2.

Vandana was a hot favourite for the Billoo Sethi Memorial Trophy, a 36-holes open match-play event. This trophy served as a warm up for the Ladies All-India Championships. The favourites, Jan Higgins and former national champion Nonita Lal who finished a poor fourth with an aggregate score of 164. Till the last day, Vandana and Charu Ahluwalia, the 1989 Pakistan Open champion, were in contention.

On the final day, Charu kept her nerves and shot a fine 75, the

day's best round. With this she won the Billoo Sethi Trophy as her aggregate of 136 gave her a resounding eight

strokes win. Charu's nearest rival Vandana was consistent but not brilliant. She shot 80 on consecutive days to

finished second on 160.

An international flavour was given this year, with eight golfers from New Zealand(2)



Indonesia (3) and Sri Lanka (3) participating in an international 36 holes match with India prior to the Charminar Challenge event. And India finished on top with an eight stroke lead (323) to her nearest rivals Sri Lanka.

Thirtysix women teed off for the Open. Holder Seema Sobti of Delhi could not defend her title as she was in the family way. The main contenders were 1989 Arjuna Award recipient Nonita Lal, former champions Shiraz Shaheed Singh and veteran Sita Rawley, who also doubled as chairperson of the



Higgins being congratulated after her semis win. On her left is Nonita Lal

championship committee. Mrs Rawley achieved a statistical landmark in these championships. She

participated in her 22nd consecutive All-India championship, a record. The Vikramaditya Trophy was concurrently played with the Charminar Challenge Championship.

An unusual feature of these championships was that five mother-daughter combinations entered the fray. The most celebrated duo was Sri Lanka's Suyaneeta Selvaratham and daughter Thuhashini Renu Ahluwalia. Young Thuhashini has the distinction of a mention in the *Guinness Book of Records*, having won the Sri Lanka national title at the age of twelve, the youngest-ever. Deep Singh had two daughters in the field, Shiraz Shaheed Singh and sister Sanjoli.

At the quarter-final stage of the Ladies championships, there were a spate of upsets. Top seed and favourite Nonita Lal was eliminated by Charu Ahluwalia. In scintillating form and brimming with confidence after her Billoo Sethi Trophy triumph, Charu excelled on the back nine to win

Higgins weathering a bunker while Vandana Agarwal looks on

the match two-up, after trailing by two holes at the turn. Charu's medal round for the second half was an incredible one under par.

Vandana overcame a formidable contender in the Sri Lankan teenager Dhinuke Boralessa 5 and 4 in the quarter-finals. In a pulsating semi-final, Vandana overcame the tenacious Charu on the 19th green. Charu trailed by a shot for most of the match but made it all square on the 14th with an exquisite birdie. After the 17th hole, Charu led but Vandana levelled in the 18th with a birdie. She won the sudden death play-off on the 19th.

However in the finals the 24-year-old Kiwi Jan Higgins was more consistent. She led in the entire morning session, but as the day wore on Vandana levelled only in the 21st hole. But Jan Higgins was in no mood to compromise and on the following hole she regained the lead and went on to win 3 and 2.

A cheerful Higgins feels she is playing the best golf of her career. In November 1989 she won the Australian Open and now the Indian Open

For Vandana, the Western, Eastern and South India Open winner, the national title once again proved elusive. She was a runner-up in 1987 and has taken a training stint abroad, courtesy American Express. However the gritty Calcutta golfer was not forlorn and was determined to win the national crown next year.

Novy Kapadia



READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Name the English cricketer who refused to participate in the Bodyline series. He later captained a series against India and in his later years was knighted for his services to the game.
2. Only four male players have been seeded Number One at the US Open since 1974. Name them.
3. Name the only woman player to win the US open on clay.
4. In which sport did William Wordsworth distinguish himself?
5. What is the one-day cricket competition in South Africa called?
6. Name the airport near Flushing Meadow which makes the players' concentration suffer?
7. Who is the lone Sikh to have played for India in the Davis Cup?
8. What was the Grand Slam previously referred to by the American Press?
9. When was the first sex test conducted at the Olympics?
10. Which weightlifter is known as 'the strongest man pound per pound'?
11. Which two athletes were

YOUR RATING TEST!

BELOW 5: Read Sportsworld more regularly
BETWEEN 6 AND 11: You probably do read but forget faster
BETWEEN 12 AND 16: You're good!
ABOVE 16: Wish we could have you on our next quiz team!

Note: Give yourself a point for each correct answer

banned for life for their Black Power salute at the 1968 Olympics?

12. Who scored the first double-century in Test Cricket?

13. Who is the first person to score a century in one-day cricket?

14. Name the two countries that

fought a war over a football match?

15. Which athlete was known as 'King without a crown'?

16. Who is the only living Indian to have represented India in hockey and cricket?

17. For which International Admiral's Cup

awarded?

18. What was the 'Champions Trophy' hockey championship previously known as? Who instituted it?

19. Which bowler has the distinction of dismissing Bradman the most times?

20. Which great footballer has the unique record of scoring over 200 goals via penalty kick conversion?

21. In the famous Old Trafford Test in 1956 where Jim Laker took 19 wickets, who was the only other wicket-taker?

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 Gubby Allen who died in 1989 | She had to disrobe to prove that she was a woman! | later quelled by UN intervention |
| 2 Connors, Borg, McEnroe and Lendl | 10 Naim Suleimanoglu (Turkey) | 15 Ron Clarke (Australia) |
| 3 Chris Evert, 1975-77 | 11 Tommy Smith, John Carlos of USA | He held 17 world records but could not win an Olympic gold |
| 4 Roller Skating | 12 Billy Murdoch of Australia | 16 M J Gopalan |
| 5 Nissan Cup | 13 Dennis Amies (England) | 17 World Team Cup in Ocean Racing |
| 6 La Guardia Airport | 14 The Olympic qualifying match between El Salvador and Honduras turned into a war for four days | 18 Col Iqbal Ali Shah Dara in 1978. It was previously known as the 'Super World Cup' |
| 7 Jasjit Singh | | 19 Hedley Venty |
| 8 The Impregnable Quadrilateral | | 20 Zico (Brazil) |
| 9 In 1936 during the Berlin Games. The American 100m sprinter Helen Stephens was alleged to be a man | | 21 Tony Lock |

This quiz has been compiled by
 LAXMINARAYAN MISHRA, C/O Mr. D.N.
 Mishra, At: Prof. Colony, Budharaja,
 Sambalpur—768 004, Orissa.

INTERVIEW

CONEY IN CONVERSATION



**Former Kiwi skipper Jeremy Coney
takes time off from his job as
commentator to air his views on the
Indian team touring New Zealand**

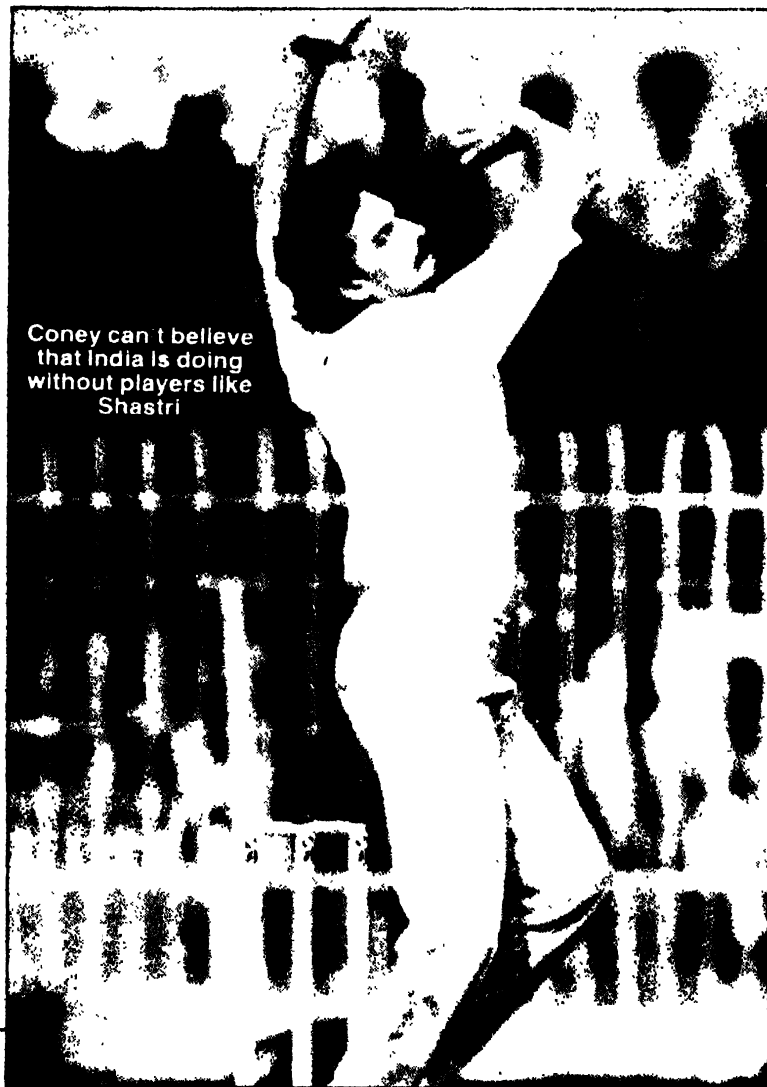
FOR all his hard-nosed professional approach to the game of cricket, Jeremy Coney brought something of an amateur's cheerfulness to his job as Wellington and New Zealand captain. Often he endeared himself to spectators and opponents through his sunny disposition, something he continues to exude as ace commentator on New Zealand radio and television.

Outside the electronic media, Coney does a lot of public speaking and even finds time to act in stage plays. He loves the "uncertainty of not having a regular job" and he plays it by ear (or the week, if you like). "I honestly do not know why my phone keeps ringing on Mondays and Wednesdays with assignments for the following week," Coney said. "But it is great fun."

As New Zealand captain in England in 1986, Coney sportingly allowed the home team to play two substitute wicket-keepers during the Lord's Test when Bruce French was rendered hors de combat by a sizzler from Richard Hadlee. More recently, he bailed his national team out when it required his services during the Bangalore Test of the 1988-89 series. Coney was touring India as a member of New Zealand TV Channel One team when skipper John Wright summoned him to field in the slips as a substitute. He readily obliged, dragging along crew member Ken Nicholson to make up the numbers on the field as the tourists had a long list of indisposed regulars. "We had a whale of a time. I was delighted Trevor Franklin was in the team because that meant I would be able to borrow a pair of whites that fit," said the tall, well-built Wellingtonian.

Asked about the current Indian team, he said:

• "In international terms, this Indian side is really inexperienced. You are for whatever reasons, and I am sure the Indian public will understand what I



Coney can't believe that India is doing without players like Shastri

PHOTOGRAPH BY



mean—in the process of rebuilding your national team. The New Zealand team, in contrast, has been more or less the same for the last five years or so. Compared to India we in New Zealand have fewer numbers to choose from and that is why we persist with our young talents longer, we really nurture them."

- I was a little surprised by some of the selections. I was in India in 1988 and with due respect to your selectors I, as well as a lot of us in New Zealand, was surprised that you are doing without Srikanth, Ayub and Shastri. Vengsarkar too was included only because Sidhu had to go home.

- I do not think the Indian public can expect too much of this Indian team. You might have the odd victory or two but at least I think it will be some time before this young Indian side comes good. And come good it surely will, no doubt about that. It is just a question of time and experience. We too went through that phase and now chaps like Danny Morrison and Ken Rutherford and Mark Greatbatch have come into their own and should serve New Zealand cricket for long.

- "The Indian bowler who impressed me the most both at Christchurch and Napier was Manoj Prabhakar. His ability to swing the ball was very remarkable. I haven't seen John Wright play and miss

Players like Ken Rutherford have come into their own and should serve New Zealand for long



"It is Kapil's approach that has been more disappointing. I think he is asking too much of himself"

as often as he did during his Christchurch innings. And whatever else may be said about Wright's batsmanship, he has always been a fine judge of the offstump.

- Kapil Dev has lost pace considerably though this is understandable. But frankly, I've been quite disappointed with his batting. It is his approach that has been more disappointing. I think he is asking too much of himself; he is probably going through a process anyone with his kind of career and experience goes through. As you get more and more experienced, you are not prepared to work as hard as you must to graft. You want to get to everything quickly. Maybe till recently his good eye saw him through but to be of greater utility to his team it would be better if he aims for the straight field and reduce the risk element to his strokeplay.

- Atul Wasson is a busy outswinger. He was unlucky a bit in Christchurch. He bowled Greatbatch with a lovely outswinger there. He keeps the batsman on his toes. I liked the way he put his act together after a poor first spell in Test cricket.

- Hirwani is very accurate for a leg spinner. The difficulty he will have faced by the time the tour is over is the lack of pace and bounce on our wickets. The New Zealanders still find it hard against him because they are unaccustomed to leggies. Everybody waited and waited for him to pitch a little short and nobody, except Rutherford maybe, was really prepared to drive Hirwani. They all stayed at home.

- Even though I realise Venkatapathi Raju is only starting out on his international career as a senior, I wish his bowling had a little more variation. He had a good first Test, three for 80-odd and extremely sensible batting, but he will become a great bowler if he adds more strings to his bow. At the moment he does not use his body very much to impart spin, to pivot on the front foot and create a loop as the ball makes its way to the batsmen. But I am sure he will improve vastly under the retired head priest of classical left arm spin bowling, Bishan Singh Bedi.

- In Christchurch (first Test) I thought the Indians played a little too freely. A little ill-disciplined for Test match play.



NIKHL BHATTACHARYA

Particularly outside the off stump and particularly on the hook. There was a dramatic change by the time they came here to Napier for the second Test. They've obviously worked very hard at disciplining themselves, stifling some of their natural inclinations to go for their strokes boldly. Mohammed Azharuddin, for example, had such an attractive innings of 48 or so in the first innings at Christchurch. It was a good promotion for the series because we have had two very boring series against England and Pakistan and we needed something like the Indian approach to bring back the crowds."

● "Raman of course had a big knock in the second innings of the Christchurch Test but on the other two occasions (including the only innings India batted in Napier) he went leg before to Hadlee. He tends to play the front foot slightly in the line of the ball initially and therefore he ends up playing his shot round that front pad. If he misses, like he did in the first innings in Christchurch and Napier, he gets out lbw. But these are things he can sort out easily. He looks an attractive player."

● "Manjrekar very obviously is a batsman of great promise. He did not show us much during his first three Test innings we saw but he seems to have a lot of time to play his shots and this is the hallmark of a sound batsman. Sachin Tendulkar, need I say, is tremendously talented for one so young? He holds the bat really low down and yet is able to drive very powerfully without much apparent effort. He looks a little troubled by the one that bounces high but then that is no yardstick to judge him by yet."

● "Kiran More batted here in Napier from experience. It was a charming little innings, full of gumption. I liked the way he did not hesitate to loft the ball into vacant areas. That way the bowlers and the fielders were always under pressure when he was there because he was always attempting to get on top of them."

● "Raju indicated that he has a lot more batting talent than people have either known or given him credit for. He batted straight and sound in trying situations. Here in Napier he did not quite get to bat enough to show that the Christchurch performance was not a one-off thing. He could shape into one of your best allrounders in the near future."

Ashok Kamath, Napier

The dearth of goals in international soccer is robbing the sport of its entertainment value. The 1986 World Cup produced a ridiculous 2.54 goals per game, the lowest average since the tournament began in 1930. Soccer's governing body, FIFA, has a new slogan: 'Go for Goal'. Now it's left to the strikers.

GO FOR

BY PAUL GARDNER

R

EAL MADRID never had any trouble scoring goals when the legendary Argentine, Alfredo Di Stefano, led the team to its greatest triumphs in the late

1950s

Usually it was Di Stefano himself who put the ball into the net, but his passion for scoring was infectious, and there always seemed to be goals for his teammates too

Di Stefano became a coach in the 1970s when defense was beginning to dominate soccer and goal-scoring declined. He noted the rise of 0-0 ties and poured scorn on them with a wonderfully evocative line

"Un partido sin goles es como una tarde sin sol," he said. "A game without goals is like an afternoon without sunshine"

That sentiment has been echoed in recent days by Joseph Blatter, the general secretary of soccer's governing body, the Federation Internationale de Football Association

Using the group's new slogan, Blatter said: "What FIFA wants the sport to do at the beginning of the new decade is to Go for Goal so that soccer shall be an enjoyable attacking game. Scoring goals is the most enjoyable activity on the field."

FIFA's slick slogan will be backed by tough action when the latest edition of soccer's showcase tournament, the World Cup, gets under way in Italy in June. The referees for the competition will be told, when they meet at the end of March, that they must not allow tackling from behind in the 1990 World Cup

Such tackling has long been used as a means of cynically



GOAL

tripping an attacking player who has broken clear, with the defender always maintaining that he was going for the ball, not the legs, and that his tripping of the man with the ball was accidental.

"We have to enforce this ban," Blatter said. "Referees are very knowledgeable about the rules, but sometimes they are lacking the courage to impose those rules."

Defenders, including goalkeepers, who have no chance to get the ball, but deliberately bring down attackers, must be penalised."

Asked if such offenders would be ejected, Blatter replied: "Yes, there could be red cards for this. If defenders do not change their attitude, yes, this World Cup could feature more expulsions than usual, at least in the beginning."

This represents a significant change in FIFA's thinking. Seven years ago, when the English leagues tried to outlaw tackling from behind, FIFA ordered the experiment dropped.

Further evidence of FIFA's new attitude is its proposed change to the offside rule (an attacker in line with the last defender will in

ASKED to list soccer's current world-class goal scorers, Pele names Marco Van Basten of Holland and Careca of Brazil, hesitates, then adds Gary Lineker of England—and comes to a halt

future be onside, not offside as at present), although this will not be in force in time for the World Cup in Italy.

The message is clear. Goals are beginning to look like an endangered species: The most recent World Cup, in Mexico in 1986, produced an anemic 2.54 goals per game, the lowest average since the tournament began in 1930.

And, there is evidence that things are getting worse: Argentina, the winner of the 1986 World Cup, has scored only 5 goals in its last 14 games over last year.

From the merely alarming to the almost unthinkable: a defensively oriented Brazil.

The sight of the yellow-shirted Brazilians weaving their attacking magic in full cry for



COLORSPORT

goals has long been one of the glories of soccer. But the Brazilians have not won the World Cup since 1970, and their coach, Sebastiao Lazaroni, has his team playing a more defensive game.

The strategy has brought success, but low-scoring success. Victory in last year's South American championship owed much to a defense that allowed only one goal in seven games, while the attack averaged fewer than two goals per game.

Pele, who is an adviser to the Brazilian national team, said afterward "The Brazilian press did not like it. They complained to Lazaroni that 'this is not Brazil,' Lazaroni told them, 'But we won. Which do you want?'"

Lazaroni's stark choice—either entertaining soccer or winning soccer—highlights the sport's difficulty.

THE ERA of defensive soccer began in the 1960s with the sport's entry into the world of big business. Losing a big game can cost a club a heap of money. It can also cost a coach his job, with the result that caution reigns.

Oscar Tabarez, the coach of Uruguay's national team, said, "The first responsibility is to not lose, to not give up goals."

That is just the mentality that FIFA hopes to vanquish with its "Go for Goal" slogan.

"If you tell your players that the first thing to avoid is giving up a goal," Blatter said, "you kill the spirit of the game."

Goal scoring provides a measure of that spirit. Giorgio Chinaglia, a teammate of Pele's on the New York Cosmos of the mid-1970s, speaks with the certainty of a man who was once a prolific goal-scorer.

"Goals are what the fans want to see," Chinaglia said. "You entertain with goals, you win with goals. To me, a 0-0 game is always boring even if it's a great game."

It was an appallingly tedious 0-0 game between Italy and Argentina in December that raised the disturbing prospect of a goal drought in the World Cup.

"This is the sort of soccer that we're going to see in the World



ACTION PLUS

Carece is Brazil's lethal weapon Cup," said the Italian coach, Azeglio Vicini. "We must prepare ourselves."

The soccer fan, who will be asked to pay up to \$105 for the opening game in Italy, and as much as \$166 for the final, may well wonder why he should prepare himself for high-priced tedium.

As Bobby Robson, coach of England's national team, commented "We're in the entertainment business, and it's a very competitive world. We owe the fans something."

But that view is not shared by Tabarez, who said his team owed the fans only one thing: "To win." Tabarez believes that the problem is aggravated by a shortage of goal scorers.



Marco Van Basten (white, left) continues his prolific scoring.



ACTION PLUS

Gary Lineker, back in England is as fast as ever

Asked to list soccer's current world-class goal scorers, Pele names Marco Van Basten of Holland and Careca of Brazil, hesitates, then adds Gary Lineker of England —and comes to a halt

Pele can offer no reason for the dearth, believing that this is simply "a bad moment for goal-scorers "

Chinaglia agrees "We have to be patient," he said "These things go in cycles "

Tabarez, too, talks of a cycle, but concedes that modern ultradefensive styles may be stifling the development of attacking players

There is general agreement that the game is now weighted in favour of the defense

Twenty years ago, forwards were quicker than defenders," Robson said "Not so now "

Not only are defenders faster they are also, Chinaglia believes, "much more skilled today "

TACTICALLY, the game has become enmeshed in a more defense-oriented outlook Where teams once took the field with three or even four out-and-out forwards, the usual number today is two, sometimes only one

"The game is defensive minded " Robson said "However many forwards you play with the other team will always have at least one more defender "

Andy Roxborough coach of the Scottish national team, denied that defense was overemphasized,

THERE is general agreement that the game is now weighted in favour of the defense. "Twenty years ago, forwards were quicker than defenders," Bobby Robson said. "Not so now". Not only are the defenders faster, they are also, Giorgio Chinaglia believes, "much more skilled today".

but did not concede that 'at the international level, it's very difficult for attacking players, they are marked so well so tightly '

While it is routine for American sports to modify rules to increase scoring, soccer has rarely done this Thus FIFA's move in response to this goal famine belated though they be are highly significant They represent an unusual attempt to use soccer's rules to make the game more entertaining to bring back the goals

Or, as the old goal scoring maestro Di Stefano would have it to give the afternoon back its sunshine



W

hen Mr. E.F. Schumacher, the British economist wrote, "Small is beautiful", he perhaps did not have Belgium in

mind. Because, Belgium (30,540 sq. km.) though small, its football was, and is 'not' beautiful in any sense. But off the field, the Belgians have creditable 'firsts' in the game's growth.

The first man to sire the thought of staging a World Cup for soccer was Count Van der Straten Pouthoy, in 1902. He was a Belgian (though the Frenchmen Jules Rimet and Henri Delauney get the credit!). In May 21, 1904, when the FIFA was born, Belgium was one of the seven founder members. And, when the first World Cup contest was staged in Uruguay, only four European states travelled across the Atlantic to play. Yugoslavia, France, Rumania...and Belgium!

With such credentials, the Belgians had their first taste of blood by winning the 1920 Olympiad (when their Czech opponents walked off the field in protest at having a player dismissed). But then it was neighbours, West Germany, Holland and France who became dominant. And Holland became the 'old enemy'.

France, in fact, played Belgium in the latter's first international game, at Brussels in 1904, nine years after the Belgian Football Association had been born.

In the European Championship, Belgium have been luckier. A



BELGIUM

third-place slot in 1972, and a runners-up berth in 1980 promised much. But a first round elimination in 1984, caused mainly by a bribes scandal involving Standard Liege, resulted in suspension of six regulars.

Four years later in 1988, the Belgians failed to qualify!

Full time professionalism was introduced only as late as 1972. And a 16-team national first division was born. Anderlecht and Standard became the prime performers, with others coming in like Union St. Gilloise, Beerschot and Racing Club Brussels.

Belgian football had previously degenerated in the late Sixties and early Seventies. Clubs were able to include average imports from the then Belgian Congo, and Scandinavia. Paul Bonga-Bonga of Standard Liege was one of Africa's best to have played in Europe. In 1962 Real Madrid tried to net him. But gave up when they learned he was 30! Meanwhile Julian Kialunda had shone for RSC Anderlecht, another Congolese product.

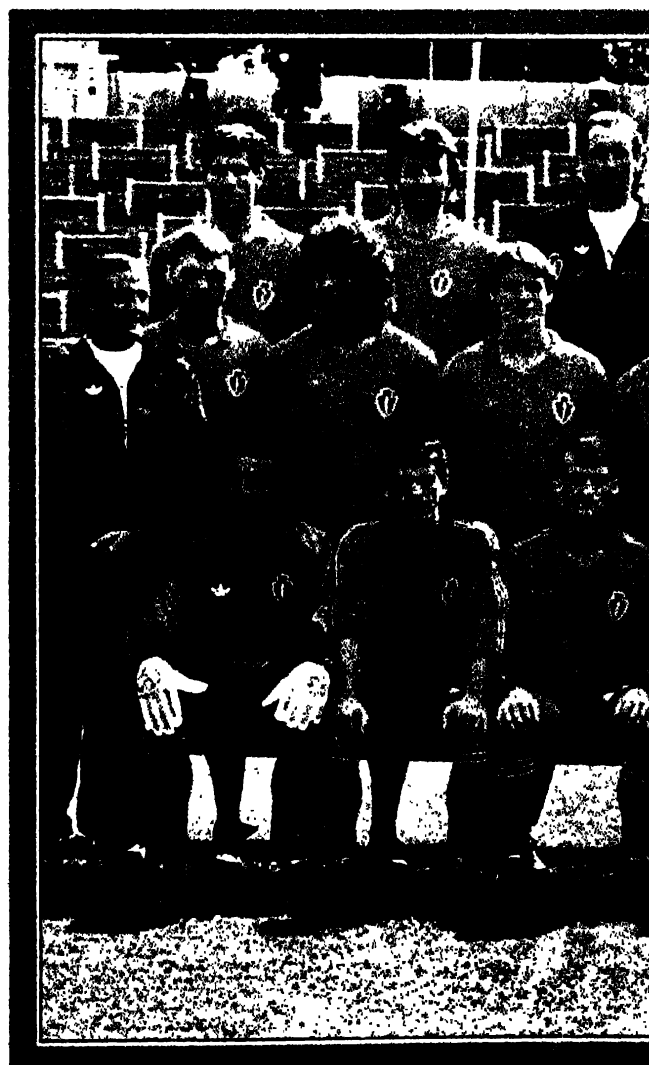
Now, the "Red Devils" are back in their third successive World Cup. With enthusiasm. But without ability to trouble the best. The same old stuff once again. Mastering the offside trap. In attacks,

or rather, counterattacks, beating their opponent's offside trap. Split second tackling. Maintaining a zonal defence. Long-balling out of defence. All welded together by crisp short passing, and inspired by rare pugnacity.

The new manager is Walter Meeuws. A former international

sweeper. And quite ironically, he was the central figure in the bribes scandal of 1984, which wiped out virtually, the side's entire defence, and led to a first round elimination in the European Championship.

He took over, when Guy Thys, the former manager retired on his 100th international,



during their qualifying rounds for the 1988 European Championship in West Germany. It was Thys who made Belgium a respected second rate power, from a third rate one in his eleven years reign.

While Meeuws is facing rough weather in getting his squad ready for Italia 1990, and some friendships, Thys now as an advisor to the Belgian FA, is spying on his group opponents of Italy, where the Group of Death awaits them all.

The Belgians had a terrible time in

MANAGER. WALTER MEEUWS

COLOURS: Red shirts, red shorts, red stockings

OPPONENTS: Group E to be played Verona and Udine, South Korea, Spain, Uruguay

PREVIOUS WORLD CUP APPEARANCES 1930

First round elimination, 1934 First round elimination by Germany 2-5, 1938

First round elimination 1-3 to France,

1954 First round elimination in group,

4-4 draw with England, 1-4 loss to Italy

1970 First round group

elimination—Belgium 3 EL Salvador

0—Belgium 0 Russia 4—Belgium 0

Mexico 1, 1982 Second round group

elimination to Poland 0-3, 1986

Semifinalists Lost to Argentina 0-2

qualifying for Italy. A resounding home win of 3-0 over Portugal, was followed by a very lucky away draw at Basle, to Switzerland. Then on October 25, 1989, came

what some Belgian commentators said, was the worst match they had ever seen. Tiny Luxembourg rank amateurs, held the Red Devils to a humiliating 1—1 draw. Of all the places, at the infamous Heysel Stadium. But that point was enough.

No wonder there is only 'cautious optimism' for their eighth World Cup adventure in Italy. Nothing more!

Of the old guard goalkeeper Pfaff, Vercauteren and Erwin Vandenberg are gone. Of the team which lacks stars, Meeuws is depending upon Nico Claessen to find form and full fitness. Vincenzo Scifo was to be their star player in 1986 Mexico. But badly flopped. This is a second chance to prove himself in high company. Being born of Sicilian immigrants, Internazionale Milan of Italy were able to grab him.

At one stage Scifo was being compared with the legendary Paul Van Himst, Belgium's greatest player ever. But form and fitness are troubling him now.

Marc van der Linden of Antwerp, and Marc Degryse of Anderlecht are young, fast and dangerous scorers. The

former particularly is in devastating form, and almost singlehandedly scorched through their opponents in the qualifiers for Italia 1990.

Mechelen, a new force in Belgium, provides most of the defence and the new goalkeeper, Michel Preudhomme. This guy is going great guns. Some say he's world class stuff and the big clubs of Europe have their eye on him.

The defence was seen to good light in the qualifiers against Czechoslovakia, Portugal and Switzerland. The men who kept them at bay apart from Michel in goal, were Bruno Versavel, Leo Clysters and Marc Emmers.

Make no mistake. This is a team in transition.

Jan Ceulemans, the tireless midfield leader, and a brilliant header, is over the hill. This tall, blonde and elegant player with a phenomenal work rate, has been the hero of Belgian football for ten years. Meeuws has no choice now. He will use him in Italy. So will he, the 35 years young Eric Gerets, who tackles like a tiger.

On the wings is yet another very promising player, a midfielder determined aggressive, shoots hard and runs like an Arab stallion. They call him Luc Nilis. Plays for Anderlecht. Lacks temperament and consistency.

Meeuws is a confused man. Will his squad survive the Group of Death in Italy? Possibly. Though not likely!

By Palash Mukherjee



R. KRISHNA



SRIPERAMBADUR GRAND PRIX

SPEED FEVER

**The Madras Motor Sports
Club's new track at
Sriperambadur is given a
baptism of burnt rubber
and octane fumes as
the country's premier
speed racing event shifts
venues. Partab
Ramchand reports on the
high-speed excitement**

**The two-wheeler action
was dominated by a pack
of riders from Hong
Kong. Ip Hin Kwai and his
Honda lean into a
right-hander**



**Flory Roothaert showed
that he could handle
circuit racing with the
expertise he displays in
rally driving**

McDowell **GRAND PRIX** MADRAS, FEBRUARY 11 & 18, 1990

IF it is possible, the shift from Sholavaram—for over 30 years synonymous with speed, glamour and thrills—to Sriperambadur only acted as an embellishment. There were still the speed, glamour and thrills—and then some. The new international standard track brought out the best in man and machine. And, by any yardstick, the inaugural meet—the 33rd All India Motor Race Meet—on it was a memorable event.

Where does one begin to tell the story of those two incident-packed, fun-filled, sun-soaked and excitement-marked Sundays? A blur of memories—happy and sad, good and bad—flooded the mind. Yet, from the mass of results, from the nearly 50 races, from the almost 100 prizes, one has naturally to begin the tale at the top. With the 'big boys'. The two competitors who took the big trophies: the Ucal roiling trophy for overall Grand Prix winners in the two-wheeler and four-wheeler categories.

Flory Roothaert and Cheung Hoo Kong. They came, they saw, they conquered. And how! One a stocky 44-year-old ex-optician from Antwerp in Belgium. The other a thin 26-year-old car salesman from Hong

Kong. One in his Renault engine powered Lola. The other on his 250 cc Honda. One spoke reasonably good English. The other no English at all. They were miles apart in background, place of origin and appearance. But as far as their attitude and skill on the track was concerned, they had a lot in common.

up to 1600cc—two four lap and two ten lap races—saw 'Kari' finish second to Roothaert. But the Belgian ace's supremacy was clearly marked. In the last race of the meet, a ten lap race, Roothaert finished about a quarter of a lap ahead of Karivardhan!

Ravi Gupta and his Formula Indian lead the pack around the circuit

The other Indian competitors, local Ajit Thomas and Coimbatore's B. Vijaykumar, provided merely token resistance. However, the bigger disappointment came from the fragile challenge put up by the Sri Lankan trio of Aslam Satter, Thambiah and Rohan De Silva. The three, in their Formula Fords, were simply not



R. KRISHNA

Flory Roothaert's victories were much more convincing. But then, he had hardly any competition worth the name. About the only competitor who might have pushed him was S. Karivardhan, but the Indian ace from Coimbatore could do only so much in his Monoposto Special. All four events for imported racing single-seater cars

**Flory
Roothaert and
Cheung Hoo
Kong. They
came, they
saw, they
conquered.
And how!**

in this class and in most cases, could not even complete the regulation laps.

Roothaert, as expected, notched up the best lap timing of the meet for four wheelers. In the ten lap race on the first Sunday, Roothaert scorched the track in the sixth lap to clock a record timing of one minute, 47.28 seconds and notch up an average

ANOTHER BRANDS HATCH IN THE MAKING?

NEXT year it will hopefully be part of the Asia-Pacific regional championship. And, in the very near future, the Madras Motor Sports Club is confident that it will enjoy the status of Le Mans, Brands Hatch and Monte Carlo. If and when that happens—and it is not just wishful thinking—then everyone connected with motor racing in the country will look back with fond memories at the inaugural meet held in February 1990 and say proudly "I was there".

Indeed, MMSC's new international race track at Irungattukottai near Sriperambudur, 34 kilometres South West of Madras on the Madras-Bangalore highway was very much the talking point of the meet. During the three decades that the All India Motor Race Meet was held at Sholavaram, the centre of attraction was always those taking part. And, at the end of yet another race meet, spectators, officials, competitors and mediamen would always discuss the performances of the stars—from Zacky Dean to Jim Crawford, from Ray Hutchinson to Sheriff Dyan.

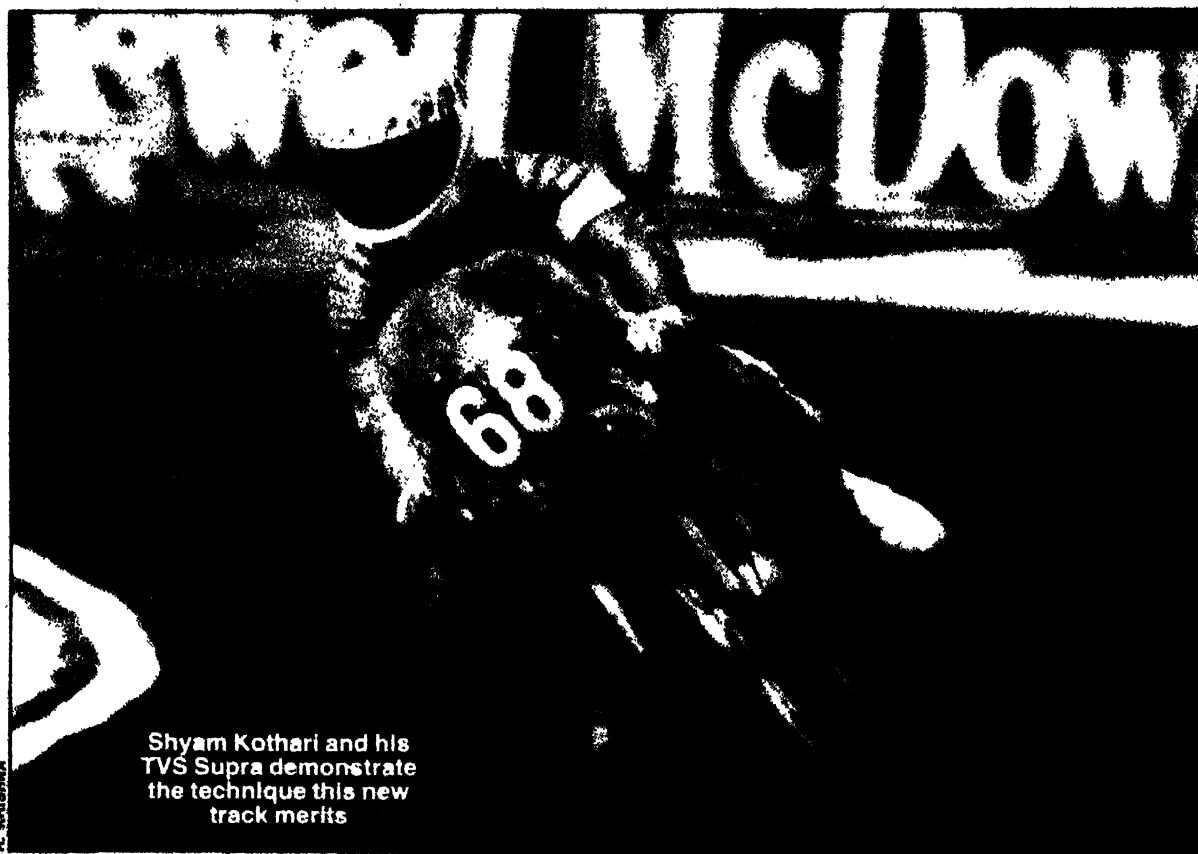
This time, however, before, during and after the meet, all that everyone associated with the popular annual competition would discuss was the new track. No, it wasn't that there was nothing by way of performances. The excellent showing by the colourful riders from Hong

Kong, the ridiculous ease with which Flory Roothaert won the Grand Prix for four wheelers, the grand performance by Coimbatore's R. Gopinath in the Formula One Single Seater Maruti championship, the two wheeler duels between Shyam Kothari and Gurminder Singh...there was all this and much more. But the centre of attraction was not the men or their machines but the track on which they rode or drove.

And why not? After all, this was the first motor race track in the country to measure up to international specifications. While World class facilities exist in this country for so many sports and games, a major sport like motor racing had to make do with abandoned air strips, makeshift tracks and contrived contraptions.

It is reasonable to believe that the new track would alter the face of the sport in this country. A beaming S. Muthukrishnan, President, MMSC told reporters during the meet that they had already received a letter from the FIM asking them whether they would be interesting in bidding for one leg of the Asia-Pacific championship next year. "Of course we will be bidding for it and I am confident of staging it," said Muthukrishnan.

Conducting a truly international level meet is not the only way motor racing will benefit in



Shyam Kothari and his TVS Supra demonstrate the technique this new track merits

the country. Thanks to the new track, there would be round-the-year circuit racing facilities. But the ancillary benefits are so much more. According to Muthukrishnan, a modern R and D centre will be established for the automobile industry. Special training programmes for motor sport officials from all over the country could be conducted regularly. The new track also gives the chance for training facilities to State and public transport drivers under the guidance of experts. In fact, Yamaha have already offered to set up a riders' training school for safety competitions.

The Madras track, as it has been unofficially christened, thus seems to be a dream via which motor sport can only look up and forward. And indeed the heady praise for it seemed both predictable and justified. Riders and drivers who participated in the just concluded meet hailed it as a truly international standard track. The participants from Hong Kong said it was more safe than the track at Macau. And even a seasoned pro like Florio Roothaert who has taken part in races, moto cross competitions and rallies in many parts of the world praised the track, adding that there was no reason why it could not become part of the Asia-Pacific regional championship.

And yet there were a few voices of dissent. Some said it was a difficult course. Others said it did not measure up to international specifications, pointing out some defect or the other. Many of these complaints were levied by competitors who did not do very well and so were not to be taken seriously. As an MMSC officials put it, "when they win, the track is good. When they lose, the track is to blame".

Winning and losing is part of the game. And in this sport, so are spills and mishap. There were quite a few accidents, but fortunately none of them were major. But the point to note was that virtually all of them involved Indian participants. Having performed for years on the T-shaped track at Sholavaram with its long straights and only a few, manageable curves and u-turns, the 12 bends of various degrees of tightness and only three comparatively much smaller straights took its toll on the inexperienced riders and drivers. But the foreign riders and drivers did not seem to face any problem.

Two FIM observers who were to have supervised the track during the meet had to postpone their visit, according to MMSC officials. However, the MMSC got the FIM okay—via Derek Duncan, the Hong Kong based FIM representative who came over as manager of the Hong Kong contingent. Duncan gave the thumbs up signal to the track, adding there was no reason to believe that India would not get one leg of the Asia-Pacific regional championship.

Parth Sarin, Madras

SCORP NEWS



Fared Bathena hurls his Maruti around with characteristic abandon

speed of 124.1 kmph over the 3.7 km track. One wonders what he might have achieved had only the competition been worthier.

The formidable 18-strong contingent from Hong Kong provided the best entertainment of the two-day meet. With tongue-twisting names and colourful souped-up foreign production bikes, they thrilled with their dare devil riding, their expertise on the curves being a particularly high point. All the bikes were in the 250 cc category, most of them being Hondas with a few Suzukis and Yamahas thrown in.

Very soon after the first six lap race commenced it was obvious that three competitors—Cheung Hoo Kong, Ip Hin Kwai and Ng Hing Tuen—were very much ahead of their colleagues as far as riding skill

With colourful souped-up foreign production bikes, the bikers from Hong Kong thrilled

went. And by the end of the meet, during which they participate in four races—two six lappers and two ten lappers—Cheung Hoo Kong had provided himself to be ahead of his two compatriots.

Kong started slowly. In the first race, he finished third behind Ng Hing Tuen and Ip Hin Kwai. In the longer event on the first Sunday, he was second to Kwai. On the second Sunday, however, there was no stopping him. Third at the halfway mark in the six lap race, he climbed to second spot during the fourth lap, went into the lead

SRIPERAMBADUR

during the fifth lap—and stayed there. The final ten lapper saw a keen duel for supremacy between Kong and Kwai. The latter led initially but midway through Kong took over and, after an engrossing tussle, finished about a second and a half head of Kwai. In the process, Kong also set up the fastest lap timing of the meet for two wheelers, finishing the ninth lap in two minutes 42 seconds for an average speed of 107.3 kmph.

In fact, this trio from Hong Kong was responsible for the most pulsating race of the entire meet. It was the ten lapper on the first Sunday, and the three riders had spectators on their feet for the most part of the 37-kilometre event, which he surrendered to Kwai just after the halfway mark. And then, suddenly, came Cheung

R. Gopinath dominated the Indian challenge by winning four races.

FOREIGN participants have always attracted attention at the All India Motor Race Meet. Not just for their performances on track but also for their colourful character. But surely Madras has not seen a more en-

thralled, he is now a professional race driver and rallyist. With his "optical" background, Roothaert has always been able to keep his eyes on the track, concentrating hard whether it is on the straights or curves.

With his many

the last five years. It was last year that he met Seema, who was working as a public relations manager with Hyatt Regency, New Delhi. The hotel sponsored him for the Himalayan Rally. It was "love at first sight" for both and on January 11 they got married.

It was while honeymooning at Fisherman's Cove, that Roothaert was sounded out by MRF to don their colours at Sriperambadur. He prefers rallying to racing, nevertheless he could not turn down the challenging offer—and the rest, as they say, is history.



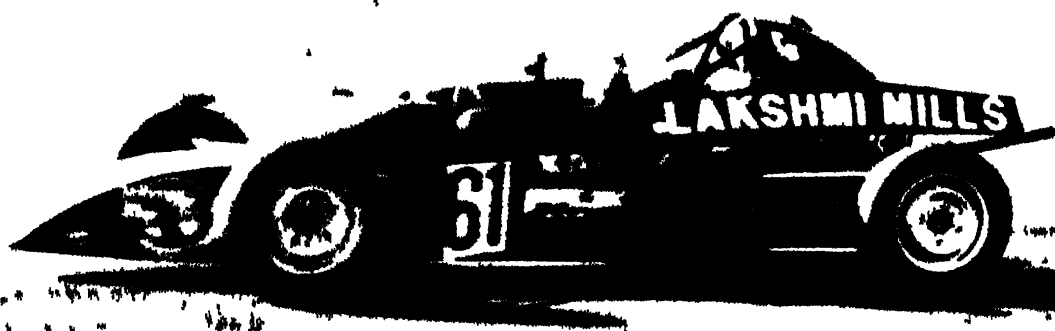
Flory and Seema Roothaert: love at first sight

aging motor racing personality than Flory Roothaert.

The 44-year-old Roothaert speaks with a clipped European accent, as well he might, having as he does from Antwerp, Belgium. Once a qualified opti-

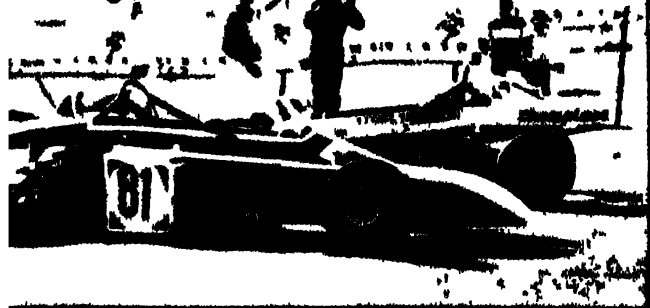
qualifications there is no denying the fact that the main reason for his popularity in India was his local connections. Roothaert is no stranger to the Indian motor sport scene. He has been competing in the Himalayan Rally for

ACCIDENTS are not uncommon in motor racing. One got used to seeing spills at Sholavaram. But there is no denying the fact that the inaugural meet at Sriperambadur had more than its quota of mishaps. Fortunately



SIDELIGHTS

the Murthy-Rajaram tangle



there were no serious injuries. But there were quite a few riders who went for a "toss" or drivers whose ears were knocked about. Most of the mishaps occurred around the same two or three tricky bends. But perhaps the most serious "knock about" involving three cars occurred in the ten lap race for Formula Indian Single Seater Marutis on the second Sunday. While negotiating the "notorious" last bend, on the sixth lap, Vikram Murthy of MMSC lost control and his

car spun around on the track. Coming up behind him, Rajiv Chesetty (MMSC) hit Murthy's car but managed to steer away and continued on his way. Not so lucky was Rajaram.

His car rammed Murthy's vehicle with such force that while Rajaram's front wheel was badly damaged, Murthy's back wheel came unstuck. The cars were in no-condition to be in the race and were dragged away. Shaken but unhurt, Murthy and Rajaram walked away to the pit area.

Hoo Kong's fantastic challenge. Zipping past Tuen, he bid strongly to overtake the leader Kwai. But by the time the racers came around the final bend, Ng Hing Tuen had recovered ground and, over the last straight, the three were so close that they took the chequered flag almost together in a bunch.

The timings will illustrate the closeness of the tussle. Ip Hin Kwai won, timing 21 minutes, 42.31 seconds. Cheung Hoo Kong was second, clocking 21

minutes, 42.73 seconds. And third placed Ng Hing Tuen's timing was 21 minutes, 43.18 seconds. Yes, less than half a second separated the three riders. Surely there can't be many races closer than that!

R. Gopinath, the fast-rising driver from Coimbatore held centrestage when it

R. KRISHNA



Among the Indian riders, it was again Gurminder Singh who stole the show. The 30-year-old businessman from Madras won four events in all...and was judged the best Indian rider.

came to the Indian competitors. Whether in the race for single seater Maruties or whether in the modified Indian cars category, Gopinath held sway, winning four races in all. With a tally of 85 points, Gopinath was adjudged the best Indian driver and also claimed the Team Carex trophy for best overall placing for Formula India Maruti engine cars.

Among the Indian riders, it was again Gurminder Singh who stole the show. The 30-year-old

Cheung Hoo Kong (Inset) almost grounds his right knee as he negotiates a right-hander on his 250 cc Honda

businessman from Madras won four events in all. His duel for supremacy with Shyam Kothari of Poona being one of the noteworthy features of the meet. With a tally of 119 points, Gurminder Singh was easily adjudged the best Indian rider and claimed the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu trophy donated by the Tamil Nadu Government. ●

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

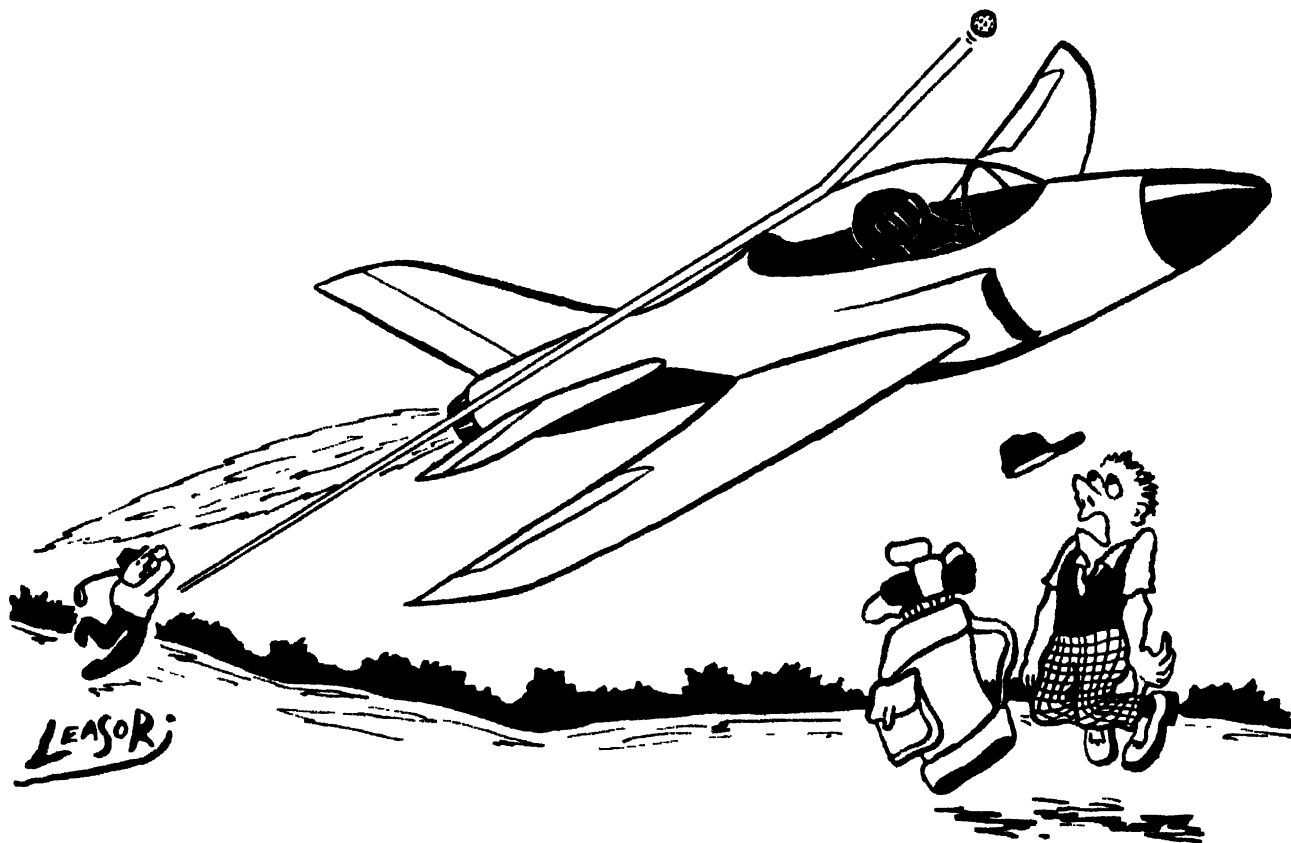
RULE 10-1 MATCH PLAY

WHEN THE BALLS ARE IN PLAY, THE BALL FARTHER FROM THE HOLE SHALL BE PLAYED FIRST. IF THE BALLS ARE EQUIDISTANT FROM THE HOLE, THE BALL TO BE PLAYED FIRST SHOULD BE DECIDED BY LOT



RULE 19-1 BALL IN MOTION DEFLECTED

IF A BALL IN MOTION IS DEFLECTED BY.... ANY MOVING OR ANIMATE OUTSIDE AGENCY, THE STROKE SHALL BE CANCELLED AND THE BALL SHALL BE REPLACED



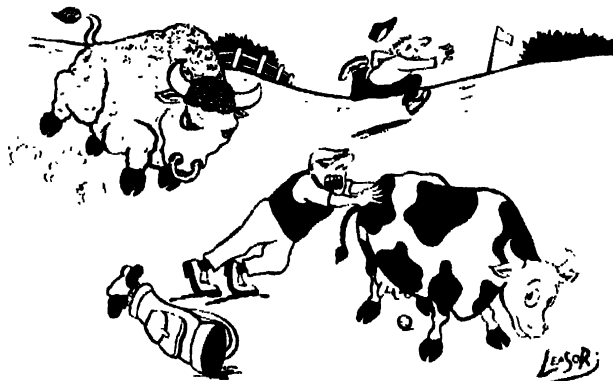
RULE 12-1 SEARCHING FOR BALL

IN SEARCHING FOR HIS BALL ANYWHERE ON THE COURSE, THE PLAYER MAY TOUCH OR BEND LONG GRASS, RUSHES, BUSHES, WHINS, HEATHER OR THE LIKE, BUT ONLY TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO FIND AND IDENTIFY IT, PROVIDED THAT THIS DOES NOT IMPROVE THE LIE OF THE BALL, THE AREA OF HIS INTENDED SWING OR HIS LINE OF PLAY



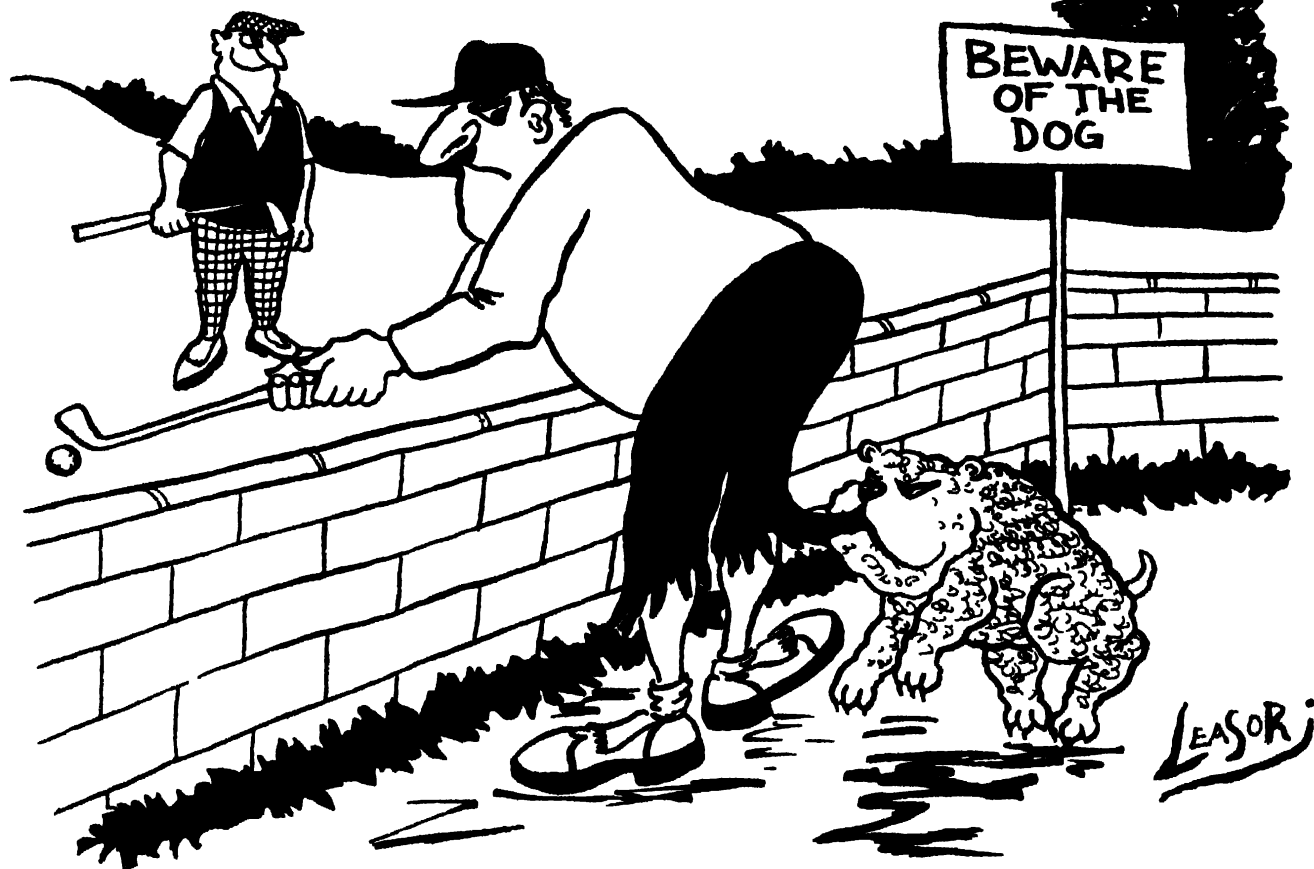
RULE 24-1 MOVEABLE OBSTRUCTION

IF THE BALL DOES NOT LIE IN OR ON THE OBSTRUCTION, THE OBSTRUCTION MAY BE REMOVED, IF THE BALL MOVES, NO PENALTY IS INCURRED AND THE BALL SHALL BE REPLACED



DEFINITIONS OUT OF BOUNDS

A PLAYER MAY STAND OUT OF BOUNDS TO PLAY
A BALL LYING WITHIN BOUNDS



RULE 5-3 BALL UNFIT FOR PLAY

IF A BALL BREAKS INTO PIECES AS A RESULT OF A STROKE
THE STROKE SHALL BE REPLAYED WITHOUT PENALTY



RULE 4-1: FORM AND MAKE OF CLUBS

CLUB FACE THE FACE SHALL NOT HAVE ANY DEGREE
OF CONCAVITY AND, IN RELATION TO THE BALL SHALL
BE HARD AND RIGID



RULE 10-2: STROKE PLAY:
THE COMPETITOR ENTITLED TO PLAY
FIRST FROM THE TEEING GROUND IS
SAID TO HAVE "THE HONOUR"



RULE 18-1 BALL AT REST MOVED
IF A BALL AT REST IS MOVED BY AN OUTSIDE AGENCY
THE PLAYER SHALL INCUR NO PENALTY AND THE BALL SHALL
BE REPLACED BEFORE THE PLAYER PLAYS ANOTHER STROKE



RULE 18 DEFINITIONS EQUIPMENT

EQUIPMENT INCLUDES A GOLF CART WHETHER OR NOT
MOTORISED IF SUCH A CART IS SHARED BY MORE THAN
ONE PLAYER ITS STATUS UNDER THE RULES IS THE
SAME AS THAT OF A CART EMPLOYED BY MORE
THAN ONE PLAYER



SORT OF A CRICKET PERSON

Vasant Rajji has written eight books on cricket. Played the Ranji Trophy for Bombay and Baroda. Batted alongside Vijay Merchant and Vijay Hazare. Now owns probably the most extensive cricket library in India. V. Gangadhar profiles this incurable cricket romantic

I FIRST met Vasant Rajji in 1988 while doing an article on the late Vijay Merchant for the *Reader's Digest*. Among the dozens of people I interviewed for the piece, Rajji was the most articulate and well informed coming out with anecdotes which revealed the character of Merchant.

Merchant was a close friend of Rajji. They were teammates during the 1940s and 50s often opening the batting for the Cricket Club of India (CCI) and once sharing a partnership of 187 runs against Parsi Gymkhana in the local league. In a span of 20 years, Rajji played Ranji cricket for Bombay and Baroda (on birth qualification), scored heavily for Indian Gymkhana while

studying Chartered Accountancy in London, and led CCI and Jolly Cricketers to several victories in the Bombay league.

Now a portly 70, Rajji, a successful Chartered Accountant, shrugs off his cricketing days. But they had some purple patches too. Playing for Baroda against a strong Maharashtra in December 1944, Rajji outshone Vijay Hazare to such an extent that A F S Talyarkhan headlined the feat in his paper *Bharatjyoti*.

'Rajji's Masterly

**Rajji owns all the
Wisden volumes
from 1900
including the 1916
limited edition**

Knock
Hazare's lucky
Century'

The Times of India acknowledged Rajji's 68 (Hazare scored 127) as 'Excellent batting by Rajji, Hazare hits century'. He played with and against Merchant, Hazare, L P Jai, Amir Elahi, Gul Mohammad, K C Ibrahim, Dattu Phadkar and Rangnekar, was chosen for the CCI against the First Commonwealth side of 1949-50, but quit first-class cricket the next year. He continued to play club cricket till 1960 and though a recognised batsman, registered two hat-tricks. His younger brother, Madan Rajji, regularly played for Bombay during this period.

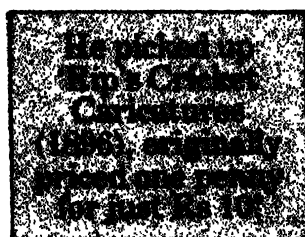
In his own way, Rajji has continued to serve





GAUTAM PATO

the game he loves. "No, no, not as an administrator or selector," he laughed. "I am not pushy enough to get into these. No one ever invited me, and I have no grievances." Raiji now possesses one of the finest and most comprehensive collection of cricket books and has so far authored eight works on the game (two of them in collaboration with others) Raiji owns all the



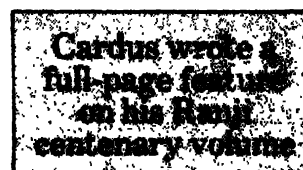
Wisden volumes from 1900 including the 1916 limited edition (because of the War) which is not mentioned in the catalogues and which carries the obits of the great Trumper and W G. Grace.

He began collecting books even while at school, selecting them from the catalogue of the British firm, E. F. Hudson, London, bombed out during the War.

"I prefer books by genuine cricket writers," explained Raiji. "They have literary merit. Cardus, for instance, I read again and again. I am not interested in the ghost-written memoirs of players."

Raiji's library has quite a few rare books—'Felix on the Bat', a scientific enquiry into the use of the cricket bat (published by Bailey Brothers) is an 1863 edition. 'The Young Cricketers Tutor' by John Nyren (1893), 'The Cricket Field' or 'The History of the Game of Cricket' (1868), 'Great Batsmen' (Illustrated), a 1905 publication which has the famous photographs of Trumper jumping out to drive and Ranji playing the leg glance. Another interesting book is the 1896 publication of 'Rip's Cricket Caricatures' from London Evening News, originally priced one penny which Raiji picked up for just Rs 10!

"Don't ask me to list my favourite books," protested Raiji. "There are too many" But I insisted and finally he made a list. Cardus' Autobiography, 'Good Days', 'Days in the Sun' 'Summer Game' (again all by Cardus), 'The Golden Age of Cricket' by A. A. Thomson, Ronald Mason's biography of Jack Hobbs, Fingleton's 'Brightly Fades the Don' and 'Cricket Crisis', and 'The Cricket Match', a fictitious account of a match between Tillingford and Ravelly



AN OLD-TIMER REMEMBERS

• **On comparing Vijay Merchant and Sunil Gavaskar:** I had played with Vijay, and watched Sunil. This is a difficult question. Gavaskar, towards the end of his career, showed he could be aggressive. Merchant never resorted to aggression except one—at Manchester, 1936. Stroke-wise, Merchant's late cut was better than anything Gavaskar could play. If we go by the generally accepted acid-test, that succeeding in English conditions establishes the true worth of a batsman, then Merchant should get the vote. In 1936 and 1946 he was outstanding. Gavaskar had one truly memorable knock, his 221 at The Oval in 1979. Merchant did not face the West Indies quickies, but he succeeded against Clarke, Nichols, Farnes, Bowes, Gover and our own Nissar. At the same time, Sunil's innings against the Pakistani spinners on a spiteful Bangalore pitch was something Merchant would have been proud to play.

• **On Players vs Officialdom:** This problem existed even in my playing days when there was no Players' Association. Merchant, Amarnath and C.K. Nayudu all had confrontations with the cricket Board. It was on an individual basis. Merchant believed he lost the captaincy of the 1946 English tour because of a Board official Subbarayan.

• **On one-day cricket:** I watch it only on television and that too only the closing moments. Some of the strokes, like the heave over midwicket or the glide through the slips are so ugly. It makes the bowlers defence-oriented.

• **On what he looks for in a cricket book:** Let's omit those which are statistical. Of the others, I prefer those which are part of cricket literature with an easy, flowing style. You should be able to appreciate them at any time, in any mood.

• **On why cricket lends itself to such a vast literature:** First the variety in the game itself—batting, bowling, fielding, wicketkeeping, umpiring, pitches and so on. You can write books on any of these. Then the leisurely pace of the game offers more scope to creativity. The atmosphere, I mean, the stretches of green, the tents, the lunch and tea breaks, the weather. Twenty-two players and the two umpires. You watch them for five days. So much happens that reveals their character, which is meat and drink for the writers. For those who love it, cricket is not merely a game. It's a way of life. So you have all these books, even poems.

V.S.

by Hugh de Selincourt.

The next step was writing. Raiji has so far written eight books. They are on Ranji, Duleep (with three others), Trumper, Ranji Centenary Album (a compilation), L.P. Jai, The Romance of Ranji Trophy, India's Hambledon Men, CCI and Brabourne Stadium (with Anandji Dossa) and C.K. Nayudu, the Shahenshah of Indian cricket. All the books are regularly listed in foreign catalogues and reviewed by Cardus, Arlott, Ray Robinson and E.W. Swanton in prestigious cricket journals. Cardus wrote a full-page feature on the Ranji centenary volume in the December 1972 issue of 'Playfair

Monthly'

Discussing his treasured books makes

Raiji feel younger.

During our three-hour chat, he skipped about,



GAIL PATE

got up about 50 times, bringing his rare volumes, clippings and 'most precious items'. These include handwritten letters from Cardus, Hobbs, Ray Robinson and even one from the late Robert Menezies, the cricket-loving Prime Minister of Australia. In one of his eight letters to Raiji, Bradman had this to say: "I am not knowledgeable about the various religions or cults in India. For instance, I have no idea what differences divide the Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Parsees. But as far as I can make out, they are all united in their love for cricket. What a pity the same can't be said about their other beliefs." ●

Bihar's Dreams Fade



RANJI TROPHY QUARTER-FINAL RESULTS

IRONICALLY the only Bihari in the Delhi team, skipper Kirti Azad deprived his home State Bihar from an upset win over the Ranji Trophy holders. The elements reduced the four-day Charminar Challenge Ranji Trophy Delhi vs Bihar quarter final match to two days plus 55 minutes and two mandatory overs. The result was decided on the first innings lead or the run quotient.

Chasing a moderate Bihar total of 249, Delhi were at one stage a pitiable 94 for 5. The much vaunted Delhi batting line (without Manoj Prabhakar and Ajay Sharma who were on national duty) collapsed like the proverbial nine pins. Skipper Kirti Azad called the collapse, "rank bad batting and lack of concentration." A more charitable view was that the batsmen could not cope with the guile and controlled swing bowling of twenty-year-old MRF trainee Subrata Banerjee.

Bihar lacked the services of a regular off spinner. Skipper Gidwani later lamented, "We missed our main strike bowler, V. Venkatram who could not play due to a stiff neck. Left arm spinner K. V. P. Rao lacked adequate support at the other end." Still Gidwani's tactics nearly paid off. He said, "Our ploy was to give Kirti a single off the first ball and then attack the latter batsmen."

Skipper Kirti Azad and southpaw Pradeep Jain put on an unbeaten 48 runs for the ninth wicket. The psychological ploy worked. Azad later said, "I kept telling Pradeep to bat straight and that I would support him. I believe in my player's ability and did not want to convey that he is a tailender and so should be careful. Pradeep batted resolutely and we survived."

Earlier, Delhi's hero was discarded international fast bowler Sanjeev Sharma. Bowling with sustained hostility, he captured 8 for 76 in 32 overs.

Novy Kapadia

THE Koreans seem to be taking their participation in the Beijing Asiad seriously. The athletes selected to compete this year have entered a military camp for commando-style training. My, my.

Korean sports officials later disclosed that about 300 national athletes were sent to a camp outside Seoul for a week of ice-water bathing, mountain climbing and other courses devised only for commandos.

Officials went one step further to say that the athletes were taught to overcome hardships and develop spiritual command over their bodies with the help of such training. Discipline is also strictly emphasised upon. If one athlete shirks tough drills, it would mean disciplinary action for all his roommates too.

Are the Indian athletes listening?



THE KOREAN APPROACH

To the Asiad

IT must be encouraging for feminist sympathisers to learn that one of Britain's leading rugby clubs is being coached by a woman.

The club is Saracens. The subject in question is Ms Alma Thomas, who as a sports psychologist is already an important member of the England 16 Group coaching team to advise the players on the mental side of the game and its coaching.

AN IRON MAIDEN

In a man's world

Thomas, who is head of the PE Department at the Bedford College of Further Education, looks

after her husband David, a former Irlanelli and Welsh flanker. She has a psychological profile of every player's strength and weaknesses and she has all the answers.

She is helping sportsmen, she is doing something that is giving her a lot of satisfaction and she is also pushing back male chauvinism. Quite a versatile woman.



THE WAGES OF SIN

On Brit sport

VANDALISM in Britain has assumed such alarming proportions that South Liverpool of the HFS Loans League are being forced to vacate their grounds.

They have decided that they can no longer cope with damage to their Holly Park ground which they estimate had cost them £500,000 in recent years.

The club has two social clubs, both of which were burnt down last summer. The bigger of the two had been broken into 21 times and all in a span of 12 months. The main stand suffered three serious fires and seats were regularly wrecked.

The final straw came when a perimeter wall was smashed by sledgehammers. Insurers refused to provide cover for the ground after that.

Graham Ost, the secretary, summed it up: "We believe we've done every thing possible. We even got a guard dog, but that failed because the vandals befriended it."

After all that, there's nothing much to be said. Or is there?

The Team Of The 90's

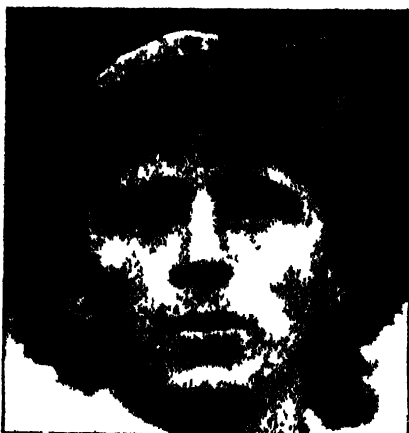
THE humiliating defeat at the hands of the Kiwis is a defeat for the team of the 90's. The call from Indian manager, Bishen Bedi, to send Dilip Vengsarkar as a replacement for the injured Sidhu is a slap in the face for Raj Singh Dungarpur.

After all, he was supposed to be a player of the '80's and not the '90's. So, Mr Dungarpur, why don't you take a break and give somebody else the chance to select the team?

C K SUBRAMANIAM,
Madras

Tears

BECKER's candid admission of the emptiness of life at the top brought tears to my eyes (*Sportsworld*, 31st Jan). Becker is a lesson to all of us who aspire for money and fame. Things don't



Boris Becker

seem rosy at all when we get these things.
S IFTEKHAR AHMED,
Melvisharam,
Tamil Nadu

An Error

I HAPPENED to read 'Auckland Scribbles' by Ashok Kamath (*Sportsworld*, 7 Feb) in which he had written about Zoran Thanga, the pint-sized powerhouse. However, there is a mistake. His name is Zoramthanga and he is from Mizoram and not Manipur.

as was mentioned
DINGA RENTHLEI,
Aizawl

The error is regretted—Editor

Thanks

THANKS *Sportsworld* for your smart presentation in your issues. Your special feature on the Siddis (*Sportsworld*, 7 Feb) was worth reading. Hope that the SAI will come up with different schemes all over the country, so that all untapped talent can be unearthed.
R HARIKUMAR,
Trivandrum

Irresistible

I BEGAN buying *Sportsworld* only a couple of months back but now I can't resist the temptation of buying the magazine. The review and preview of the Australian Open was very good. I liked your report on young Leander Paes and I congratulate him on his splendid performance.
C SHYAMSUNDAR
Madras

THE FAN CLUB

Dear Edgar Mascarenhas,
Wishing you all the best in your career. Just one bit of advice: please play for your country and not for yourself. You can help yourself by intoning 'Lord held me' before you step onto the field.
Your admirer
DAISY (Polka).

Dear Srikanth,
Don't get upset at being dropped from the Indian team. I am sure you will be back as an opener before long. What the hell does Raj Singh think of himself? He has very little sense of the game and will soon ruin

our cricket before his tenure is over. I don't know if this is any consolation, but your fans are with you in this hour of trial.

A favour: can you send me your autograph at the following address?

SAMPA DIGHAL,
'Gitanjali', P.O.
Kunjaban, Shyamali
Bazar, Agartala, Tripura,
799006.

Dear Srikanth,
It was a 440-volt shock to hear that you had been dropped from the side to tour New Zealand. What does one say to the Indian selectors? A bunch of jokers, that's what! I hope you make it back to the Indian team. You are

my favourite cricketer; your square cuts and steers are a delight to watch. I have often tried to play the strokes but in vain.

I wonder how I can get your address to ask you for your autograph.
NRIPEN NAG,
Jorhat, Assam.

Dear Ravi Shastri,
I am a devoted fan of yours. I admire your personality. I'd like to become like you when I grow older. I was disappointed when you were dropped for the tour of New Zealand, but the *Sportsworld* interview clarified a lot of points. The fact that you have accepted the challenge to return to the side has made me a

stauncher enthusiast of yours.

Can you do me a favour? Can I have an autographed picture of yours?

Please do not disappoint me (You didn't reply to my earlier letter). And don't lose my address.
MOU GHOSH, Old DMO Hospital Colony, E.R., Beth Road, Quarter no. 77A, P.O. Asansol, District Burdwan 713301, Bengal.

Want to tell your favourite cricketer something? Why don't you reach out for a sheet of paper and write? We'll carry your letter in our columns, which is as good a way of getting the text to them.
Write to 'The Fan Club', *Sportsworld*, 6 Prafulla Sarker Street, Calcutta 700001.



CONTINUING with the three-step combinations, this week let's discuss the two straight punch, one back kick sequence

Standing in *kumite-dachi*, hands held up to guard face, throw a straight punch with the left hand. Withdraw the hand immediately on making contact, throwing another straight punch with the right hand. Using the forward momentum created by this punch, bring the right foot across your body as you turn around and deliver an *ushiro-giri* (back kick) with the right foot.

As explained in the earlier weeks, you have to create the distance between you and your opponent with the punches before launching the kick to drop him.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



1
Throw a straight punch with the left hand

2
Follow that with a straight punch with the right hand

3
Bring the right leg across the body and turn

4
Deliver a back kick to the chin or solar plexus with the right leg



LAST week we'd checked out legs; now let's try and pump up those arms a little. After all, what's great body with puny arms? Gotta have them biceps bulging out of your sleeves or else you ain't gonna be tough.

Freehand exercises for the arms are okay. But there aren't any that really isolate the arms. Concentrate all the action on them, making them toil hard...and show the results for it. Like, push-ups and pull-ups really work the arms alright but spread the effort out among the shoulders and upper torso too. So if you're going for gold with the arms, it's gotta be done with iron.

The best bicep builders are curls: the standing curl, the reverse curl, the preacher's curl and so on. Using the resistance offered by the

weights, they systematically isolate the arms during the exercise to make the biceps and triceps take all the strain. In fact, there are a lot of fitness enthusiasts around who only bomb their arms with reps of curls. That way they can flash an impressive set of muscles when they roll up the sleeves and hit town.

But more seriously, if

you're interested in overall fitness, you've got to give each body-part its due. A total workout is one that works every part of the body and develops it in proportion. So don't get carried away with your arms so much that all you have are huge, muscular arms while the rest of the body is either spindly or flabby. Just give them enough

to fill out and get ripped. Basically to be strong...and look good.

The first exercise we'll use is the 'alternate dumbbell curl'. Stand with a dumbbell in each hand, at arm's length; your palms facing your thighs. Starting with your left hand, slowly lift the dumbbell up until it clears the thigh, then begin to rotate your wrist outward and curl

it up until the arm can bend no further. Be sure to keep your wrist straight and the elbow in its original position. Bring the dumbbell down slowly, rotating the wrist inward slightly, to the starting position. Now repeat this with the right arm.

The next one is very similar, except that it's done with a barbell and therefore requires both arms to be curled up at the same time. One advantage with this is that you can go in for a heavier poundage since you're using both arms simultaneously.

The next exercise is called the 'reverse curl' and is again similar to the normal curl except that you grip the bar with a reverse grip, i.e. palms facing down. This works the triceps more, giving them a chance to catch up with the premier arm muscles: the biceps.

And, of course, there is the 'preacher's curl'. Called this because of the support taken from an almost preacher-like pulpit, this exercise works on the basis of the concentration curl. Where the elbow is supported by either your knee (as in the concentration curl) or an angled board (as in the preacher's curl), making the bicep muscle do all the work in the lift.

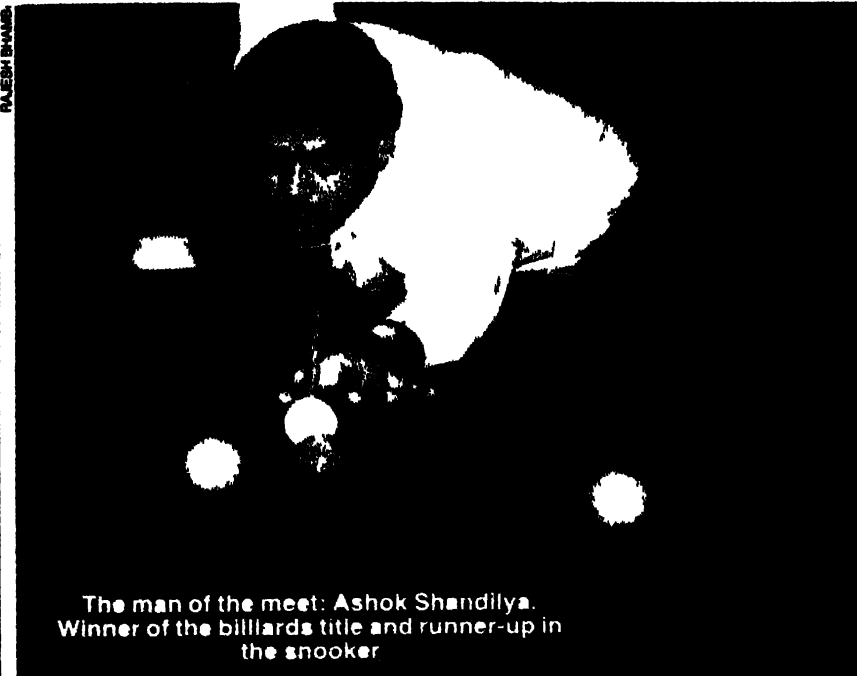
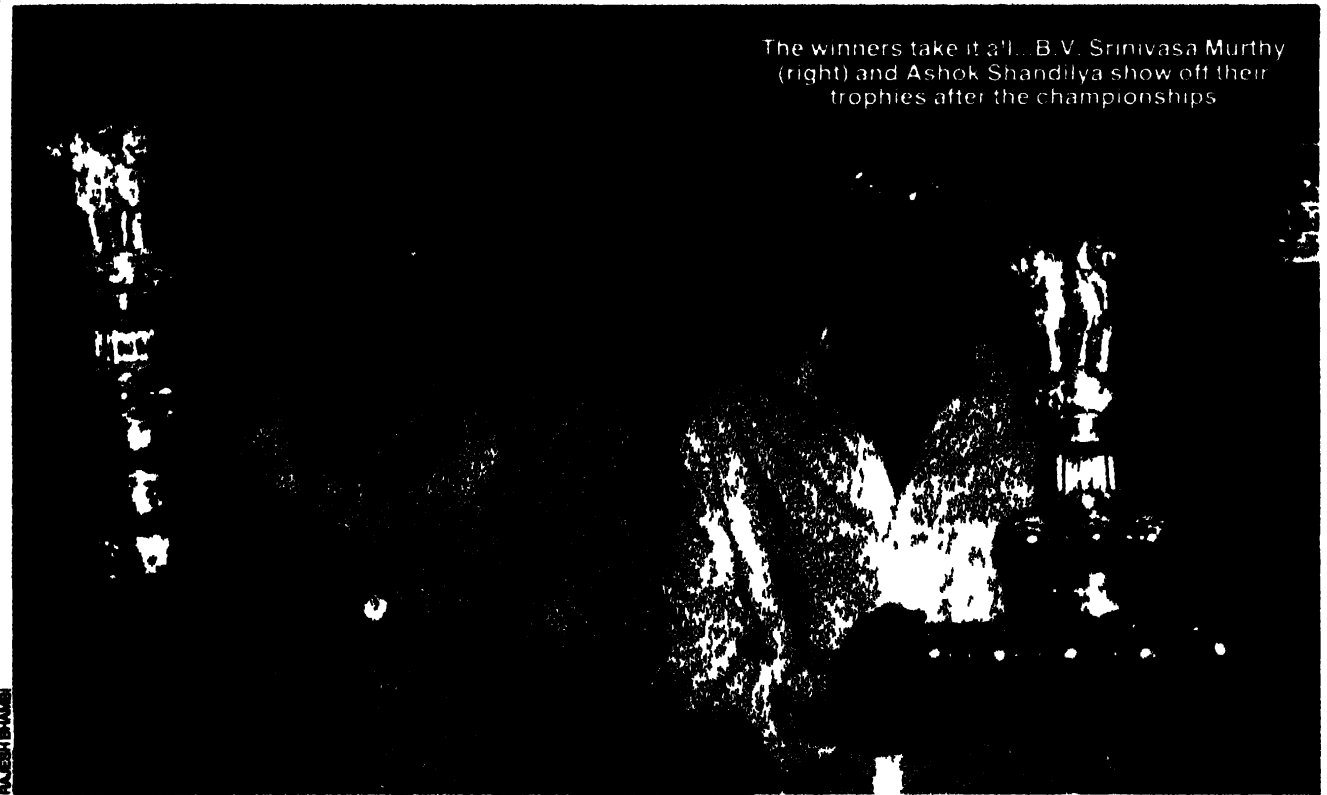
That's all for this week. We'll give you some more arm-builders next week. Keep at them and you'll soon be rolling up your sleeves a little higher. After all, what's the use of all that muscle if you don't impress a few people, right?

Arm Yourself With Muscle



SPOT REPORT

The winners take it all... B.V. Srinivasa Murthy (right) and Ashok Shandilya show off their trophies after the championships



The man of the meet: Ashok Shandilya. Winner of the billiards title and runner-up in the snooker

THE McDowell 56th Senior & 14th Junior National Billiards & Snooker Championships concluded at Bangalore with a pronounced degree of satisfaction for Karnataka—with local snooker stalwart B V Srinivasamurthy annexing the glittering trophy, thwarting young Ashok Shandilya's bid to capture both the titles in the same year. In methodically calculated manner, he reeled off the match 6 frames to 2.

The fact that a lot of Internationals fell by the wayside, including the National Champion Shyam Jagtani, the renowned Geet Sethi, reigning Asian Snooker Champion Yasin Merchant, former World Champion O B Agarwal, local favourite M G Jayaram and others like Arvind Savur and S A

Saleem speaks volumes of the snooker talent in the country.

Shandilya made best of the dismal billiards scene in the country currently. With Michael Ferreira and Geet Sethi joining the professional ranks, the chasm created has become much too wide to be filled. Even the flattering statistics and records in S.B. Agarwal's name proved insufficient. Much was expected of Agarwal, but he faded away after an initial flourish. In the finals he could not produce the form which he is known for, possibly due to the illness he was dogged with, and went down tamely to Ashok Shandilya 1367-1434.

Shandilya and Agarwal will now represent India in the World Amateur Billiards Championship. Agarwal is fit and can regain the form he displayed for his maiden world title, it will be an interesting battle. Shandilya will



also team up with B.V. Srinivasa Murthy to represent India in the World Amateur Snooker Championship and the Asian Championship, along with the title-holder Yasin Merchant.

A distinct feature in the format of this year's championship has been the adoption of the World Championship format with two players qualifying for the knock-out phase. The qualifying rounds, reintroduced after a gap of eight years after much deliberation by the Karnataka State Billiards Association, proved their importance beyond doubt with the two qualifiers in billiards. All the four qualifiers made the knock-out grade with two of them in the semi-finals and the winner of the championship being the qualifying rounds winner.

The Junior fare was quite an optimistic prospect for the future. The most noteworthy among them being the protege of Geet Sethi, Sonic Multani of Gujarat. It is after a long time that a junior has

'Super' Sonic Multani receives his Junior Billiards trophy. Will this talented youngster fill the void created by Geet Sethi's absence?

figured in the quarter finals of the senior billiards event: Multani eventually finished as India No. 5 in the Senior event.

In the Juniors, he demolished all opposition including the top seed and favourite Alok Kumar of Punjab who gave the only semblance of a fight to the 'Super' Sonic. Multani's defeat of Alok Kumar and a massive break of 324 against Amit Saboo to equal the highest break in the Senior Billiards (by Ashok Shandilya) shows him as a possible filler of the void created by Geet Sethi.

In the Junior Snooker however, Alok Kumar justified his top billing by winning the title which eluded him at Guntur and Srinagar. It was an exact reversal for Alok Kumar who had won the billiards and was runners-up in snooker at Srinagar last year. Now he won the snooker and was runners-up in billiards. Others who impressed in snooker were Amit Saboo who finished runner-up; Aditya Goenka of West Bengal and Chirag Ramakrishna of Maharashtra.

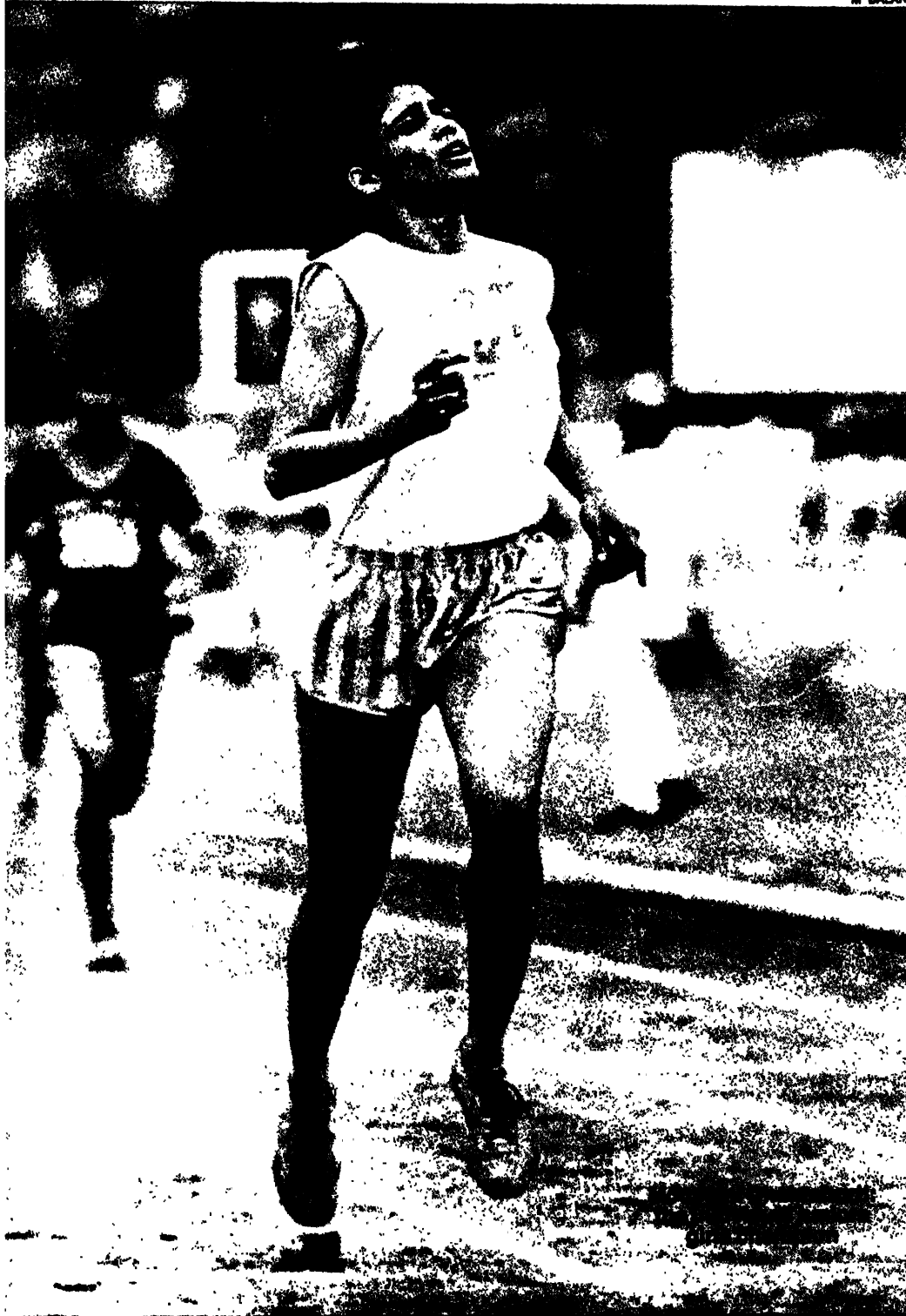
B.V.S. Murthy, Bangalore



A beaming Alok Kumar holds up his Junior Snooker trophy. Yet another promising cueist in the making

It's Kerala

M BALAN



THE 35th National School Games was held in Trivandrum recently. And the story was the same. There were accusations of overage problems, there were very few and proper facilities for the gymnastics and the wrestling competitions and the track arrangements for the 110m hurdles was not in order at all. However, all that did not take away some superb performances on the field.

Anusuya Roy of Tamil Nadu set a meet record in the long jump with a leap of 5.59m. Earlier, she took the gold in the 110m hurdles for junior girls. Another girl who caught the eye was Lasiammani from Mizoram. She ended Haryana's domination

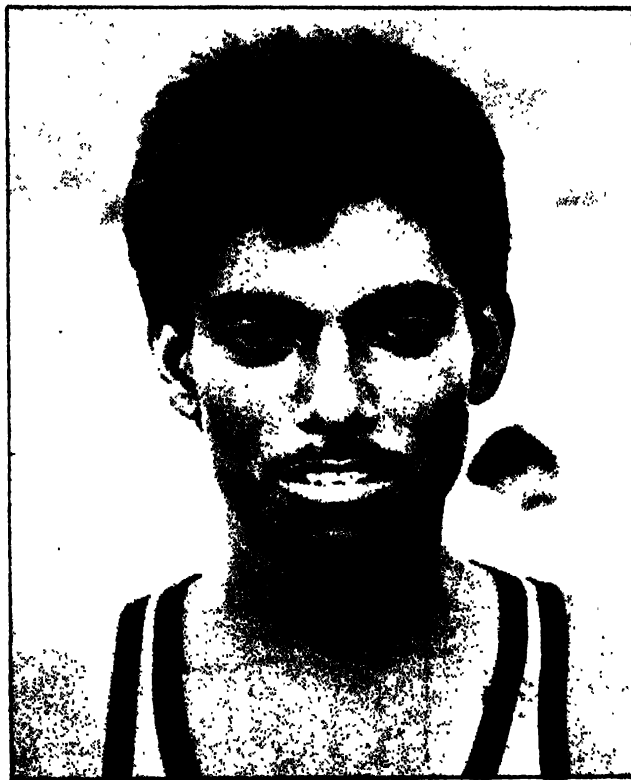
All The Way



The triumphant 4x100m relay squad from Kerala.



Mohnish Shukul: the 800m champion in the senior boys



P.A. Jabber (Kerala): the senior boys champion

in the javelin event for junior girls. Another notable performance came from Minimoy Joseph of G.V. Raja Sports School. She won the 200m in a time of 26.1 secs. (Earlier, in the heats she erased the meet record with a run of 25.9 sec) and helped Kerala to the gold in the 4x100m relay.

On the boys side, Bhairav Singh of Madhya Pradesh with a fine effort bettered the existing 5000m record with a time of 14:59.8. In the 100m for juniors, Ramkumar took the gold.

Some of the other results were:

Boys: 1500m: Jaidev (Haryana)

800m: Mohnish M.

Shukul (New Meet record: 1:55.1).

100m: P.A. Jabber
Individual champion in senior boys: P.A. Jabber.

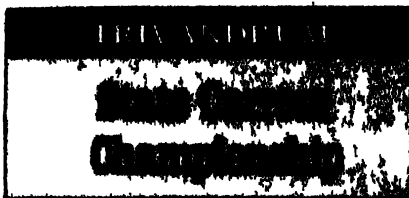
Individual champion in senior girls: Minimoy Joseph.

Individual champion in junior girls: Mousumi Chakraborti.

In gymnastics, Punjab took the team championships title while in the girl's, Haryana won the title.

Holders Kerala retained the overall title while Punjab came second. 24 teams participated in the five-day meet. E.K. Nayanar, the Chief Minister gave away the prizes.

P. Venu Govinda Kumar



TOP seeded Jyothy Prakash of Palghat and Vineetha Mohan of Trivandrum retained the men's and women's titles, respectively, at the fifth State Carrom Championship conducted jointly by the Kerala Carrom Association and the University of Kerala.

Both Jyothy Prakash and Vineetha found the going smooth on their way to victory. Vineetha, who represented South Zone in the Inter-Zonal Carrom Championship, was instrumental in getting Kerala the runners-up position at the 16th Junior Nationals held at Trivandrum.

Vineetha also won the women's doubles title combining with Vidhya Lakshmi. In the men's section the Jyothy Prakash-Sasidharan pair bagged the title.

M G R Kamath of LIC emerged the veterans champion. Among the participants, High School student Ravi caught every one's attention with his brilliant performance on the board.

Trivandrum won the team Championship, Director of Sports and Youth Affairs Rajeev Sadanand gave away the trophies and certificates. In all, 180 players turned out for the meet.

Inter-Railway cycling

NORTH ZONE with 46 points pedalled away with the team championship in the 28th Inter-Railway Cycling Championship, held at the Laxmi Bai National College for Physical Education. South Zone (34 pts) finished runners-up and South Central came third with 27 pts.

K Vinod Kumar, Anoop Kumar, Sathesshan and Jayaprasad, of South Zone set a new meet record in the 1600 m team trial run, clocking one minute 59.04 sec.



The women's champion:
Vineetha Mohan

In the 1000 m time trial Trilochan Singh of Northern Railway came first timing one minute 37.79 Sec. Former Indian captain R N Attar of South Central was pushed to third spot. Trilochan completed a treble winning the 400m individual pursuit (5m 23.1 Sec) and 4000m team pursuit teaming with Kirpal Singh, Satish Wallia and Bava Singh.

Team champion, Northern
Railway

Abhigat Singh of South Eastern won the gold in the 1000m sprint (one minute 18.7 Sec) closely followed by S. Kirpal Singh (N R.). S. Kirpal took the gold in the 1600 m mass start.

P.K. Vahi, Trivandrum divisional Railway Manager distributed the awards.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

JAMSHEDPUR

Ranji Trophy

Bihar Vs. Karnataka

BIHAR made mincemeat of South Zone champions, Karnataka in the four-day pre-quarter finals of the Charminar Challenge Ranji Trophy, held at the Keenan Stadium recently.

Bihar's dashing trio of Hari Gidwani (229) wicket keeper batsman Saba Karim (103) and medium pacer batsman Subroto Banerjee made a mockery of Karnataka's insipid bowling.

Earlier the Karnataka team had first strike after Binny won the toss and decided to bat. They managed to score 274 with useful contributions from S. Vishwanath who scored a fluent 70 while Roger Binny contributed 17. The highlight of the innings from





Subroto Banerjee: In fine form

Bihar's side was medium pacer Subroto Banerjee who took five wickets for 57 runs

In Bihar's first innings they started with a bang scoring 116 for the loss of only two wickets. Thereafter there was no challenging them and they rattled up an awesome 567 leaving little

chance for Karnataka on the last day to make up the deficit. Karnataka scored 170 for the loss of four wickets at the close. **Anjan Chatterjee**

MANGALORE

State-level Bridge

KINI's team from Bangalore comprising R K Kini, B K Satyan, Ningiah and Durgadas triumphed in the Swiss league tournament of four competition bagging the main trophy in the third state level Open Bridge Association held at Mangalore recently.

Over 100 players representing 24 teams from Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli, Kudremukh, Surathkal, Mangalore and Goa participated in the tournament.

Results: Open pairs: Winners: N S Dr A Mathias, Mr Jeevan Prabhu, E W Dr G V Anand, Mr G R Bijoor. Runners up: N S Mi

M J Shah, Mr L K Saboo, E-W Mr N R Nijasure, Mr V K L Swamy

Progressive team of four: Winners: Saboo's team, Bangalore (Messrs L K Saboo, M J Shah, G V Anand and G R Bijoor), runners up: Kini's team, Bangalore.

Swiss league team of four: Winners: Kini's team, Bangalore. Runners up: Saboo's team, Bangalore.

Michael R. Patrao

CALCUTTA

Cricket Festival

A CRICKET festival was held at the Bishop College campus. The final was between Mar Thoma Parish and Bishop College for the Reliable Trophy. It was won by the Mar Thoma team and the Man of the Match award went deservedly to Binu Thomas Koshi.



PUNE

Inter-Varsity Kabaddi

Pune University won the All-India Inter University women's kabaddi tournament. They defeated Bombay in the final.



The victorious Mecon team posing for the camera after they won the championships

got a penalty corner but nothing happened. It was a barren first half.

However, in the 22nd minute of the second half, Mecon forged ahead when veteran Joseph Tirkey received a short pass from A Tirkey and scooped the ball over the head of the advancing goalkeeper, Romeo James. However, four minutes later, BPL retaliated when C A Jose converted a penalty corner to even the score.

The game moved into extra time and in the second minute a C Dungdung shot ricocheted off the goalkeeper and A Lakra was there to pounce on the ball and scoop it into the net. Mecon moved into the lead now. And they managed to keep it for the next thirteen minutes although there was some desperate attacking by the BPL players.

Earlier in the first semi final Mecon beat Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) 1-0. The goal was scored by Marcellus Tani in extra time. In the other semi final BPL beat CMPTD Ranchi 3-0.

Arun Kumar Thakur

ROURKELA

Public Sector Hockey

DEFENDING champions Mecon retained their title in the seventh All India Public Sector

tournament played here recently. They defeated Bharat Petroleum Limited, (BPL) Bombay 2-1 in the final.

In an evenly fought final, the BPL team managed to get two penalty corners in the first half but failed to convert. Mecon also

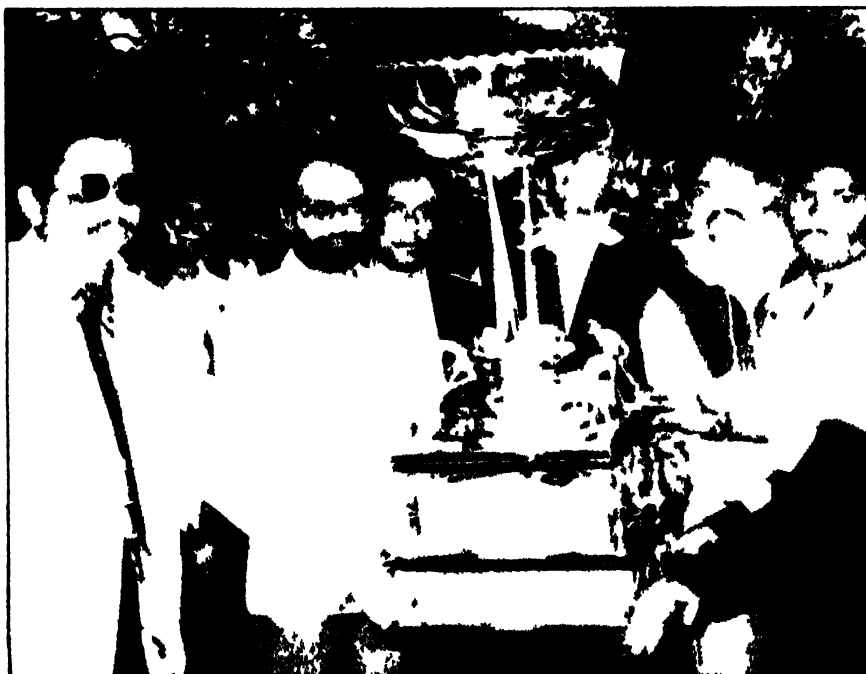
Jaipal Singh Gold Cup

IT seems defence personnel have developed a special liking for the coveted Jaipal Singh Hockey Gold Cup. Since the introduction of the Gold Cup in 1984, the Army men have lifted the Cup six times and this year was no different.

Defending champions Bihar Regimental Centre from Danapur won once again when they prevailed over South Eastern Railway by a brace of goals in a dull final played at the Ipat Stadium.

The match was confined mostly to the midfield and for BRC Olympian Manohar Topno performed superbly in the defence where time and time

Bihar Regimental Centre with the Gold Cup



again, he managed to thwart the many attacks of the Railway men. It was Topno also who drew first blood when he converted a penalty corner with a rasping drive, early in the first half.

In the second half, SER launched a series of attacks but they were let down by James Kerketta who missed two sitters and seemed surprisingly off-form. And just two minutes before the final whistle, John Topno sealed SER's fate when he scored a goal off a penalty corner.

Border Security Force got the third spot when they registered a comfortable 4-1 victory over Indian Overseas Bank.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Bihar Regimental Centre defeated BSF 3-1 via the tie-breaker. And in the other half, SER defeated IOB Madras by a solitary goal.

Paul Kirupakaran, the lanky IOB forward was declared the best player of the tournament and was presented with the Bobby Claudius Trophy. IOB, Madras and Sports Hostel, Red' team from Rourkela were jointly awarded the K D Singh Trophy for the best disciplined teams in the tournament.

Satish Sharma

HYDERABAD All India Open Chess

KV SHANTHA RAM of Indian Bank won the All India Limca Chess tournament. He scored nine points, just conceding two draws to unknown players in the earlier rounds. But it was a surprise since the top seed, Devaki Prasad of Union Bank of India was leading throughout. Then came the match with K V Santha Ram and it was nerve-wracking one.

Prasad took the initiative in the beginning but later both had time problems. They had to make twelve moves in a minute and it was a wild scramble. Finally, Santha Ram got a piece advantage and managed to get half a point.



K.V. Shantha Ram receives the winner's trophy from A.N. Digbhey, the Zonal Manager of State Bank of Hyderabad.

In his final round match against Dr. Nagendra, Santha Ram was again in trouble but fought back intelligently and eventually won.

N. Ghallib

YAVATMAL National Sub Junior School Games

PUNJAB won the overall team title in the recently-concluded National Sub

Delhi won the boys kabaddi gold

Junior schools championships held at Yavatmal, Maharashtra. The surprise was that they won only one gold and that was in hockey. Himachal Pradesh came second while hosts Maharashtra came third.

The five-day meet saw 843 boys and 423 girls (below 14 years of age) from 17 States vying for top honours in disciplines like volleyball, hockey, kabaddi, kho-kho, wrestling and football. Hockey was introduced for the first time this year.

Here are the results:

Boys

Hockey: Mizoram

Football: West Bengal

Kho-Kho: Maharashtra

Volleyball: Uttar Pradesh

Kabaddi: Delhi

Wrestling: Haryana

Girls

Kho-Kho: Maharashtra

Volleyball: Himachal Pradesh

Kabaddi: Himachal Pradesh

Yavatmal Collector: Mr.

Prabhakar Manchrekar and the Principal of the Dr B N College of Physical Education, Dr. Prakash Nandurkar deserve mention for the excellent manner in which they hosted the entire championships.

Anil Jadhav



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who wrote that if the French nobility had played cricket with their peasants there might have been no revolution?
2. What is a 'fouette' in gymnastics?
3. And who is a "routier"?
4. What is the height of the goal in handball?
5. A Calcutta-born cricketer played 9 Tests for South Africa. Name him.



6. Who is the only batsman to score 6,000 runs in Test cricket before reaching the age of thirty?
7. Who was the first man to take 6 catches in an innings of a Test?
8. Who is awarded the Norris Trophy?
9. A certain club holds the Oval cricket ground on a lease. Which club?
10. What is common to these international soccer stars of yesteryears—Falcao, Daniel Passarella and Zico?

ANSWERS

1. G.M. Trevelyan
2. Quick whipping movement of raised leg.
3. Road race rider (in cycling).
4. 2.4m in field handball and 2m in indoor handball
5. Bob Crisp.
6. David Gower. He achieved the feat in August, 1986.
7. Wally Grout.
8. NHL Trophy awarded each year to the Best defenceman.
9. Surrey Club
10. All of them were born in 1953.

CHESS

The Four Pawns Attack is the most direct way of attempting to refute the Kings Indian Defence. Most people consider it too extreme and risky even though it does well enough in practice. One suspects someday it will become fashionable with kid-bashers. This is an example of how

dangerous it can be.

White: Arencibia Vs Black: Martin Del Campo, Cuba '89.

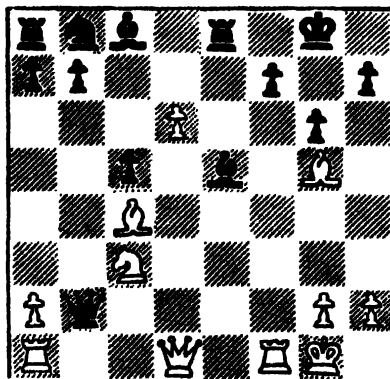
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 0-0 6 Nf3 c5 7 d5 8 Be2 ed5 9 od5 Re8. Without digressing too much lets say that white could also play 9 ed5 or 9 e5 with good chances. Black has sometimes tried 9—b5 after 9 cd5.

10 e5 de5 11 fe5 Ng4 12 Bg5 Qb6 13 0-0 Nxe5. Black rejected 13—c4+ 14 Kh1 Nf2+ 15 Rxf2 Qxf2 16 Ne4 with good reason as white has terrific compensation for the exchange. However he might have tried 13—c4 14 Kh1 Ne3! With unclear complications.

14 Nxe 5 Bxe5 15 Bc4! Qxb2 16 d6 (See Diagram) Bd4+ ? This loses a vital tempo. 16—Bf5! 17 Rxf5 gf5 18 Bxf7 Kxf7 gf5 18 Bxf7 19 Qh5+ Kf8 20 Bh6 Bg7 21 Qxf5+ Kg8 22 Qd5+ is only a perpetual and if 22 Rf1? now 22—Bd4+! 23 Kh1 Nc6 defends everything.

17 Kh1 Bf5 18 Rxf5! gf5 19 Bxf7+ Kxf7 20 Qh5+ Kf6 21 Bh6+ Bg7 22 Qxf5+ Kg8 23 Rf1! (1-0). Now the twin threats of 24 Qf7+ Kh8 25 Qxe8 or Qxg7 cant be defended

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Most people are so disgusted when they reach a poor contract that they fail to make the best of their cards. Kamal Mukherjee, who has one of the best Indian track-records in international bridge, is particularly adept at tackling such hands as this deal from the recent Outram Club demonstrates:-

Dealer South E-W vul.

NORTH(dummy)	
♠	—
♥	Q 10 8 2
♦	A K 10 6 4
♣	A K 10 7

WEST	EAST
♠ A Q 9 8 7 4	♠ J 10 6 3
♥ J 7	♥ A K 8
♦ Q 6 2	♦ 9 8 7
♣ Q 8	♣ J 9 2

SOUTH	
♠	K 5 2
♥	6 5 4 3
♦	J 3
♣	6 5 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
—	1♦	Pass	1♥ (1)
1♣	3♣ (1)	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♣ (2)	Pass	4♥
4♣	5♥	Dble	All Pass

(1) heart support with spade shortage
(2) cue-bid showing club control

Even four would have been in some jeopardy and here declarer had to make eleven tricks! He got a favourable lead, the ace of spades. Ruffing in dummy. South had no good move but in less time than it takes to read this, Kamal continued with a low heart from the table as if without a care in the world. Now, admit to yourself at least, would you, as East, have been able to play low on this? Well, the actual East could not, going up with the king after a slight pause.

The contract could still be beaten if East continued trumps but quite naturally he played back a second spade trying to force dummy. That was all the help Kamal needed... he won in hand, ditching a club from dummy, and led the jack of diamonds, letting it ride successfully when West followed low. A diamond to the ten came next and declarer threw away his last spade on the third diamond. Now the heart queen was played off the table and the defence was dead. East won as the jack came tumbling down and tried his best by playing back another spade but Kamal carefully ruffed in hand, stuffing dummy's club loser, drew the last trump and claimed. Nor does it help East to play back anything else for declarer can win, draw the third round of trumps, discard his clubs on dummy's diamonds and finally ruff dummy's last club in hand. Well, if you can handle your dummy this deftly who can question your bidding!

Santanu Ghose

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



It was billed as the biggest match of Frank Bruno's life...and it was! Big Bruno might have been brave enough to step into the same ring as a stampeding Mike Tyson, but it took him ten long years to muster up enough courage to walk down the aisle. But when he finally did—on 5 February—he did it in style.

Dressed in a resplendent blue suit, Bruno finally tied the knot with his longtime girlfriend Laura Murray in a full Catholic service at St. Mary's Church, Essex. While Frank and Laura's two daughters, seven-year-old Sarah and three-year-old Rachel, played their parts of bridesmaids to perfection, Frank's older brother Michael was the best man.

INTERVIEW

MY SON MICHAEL

*Friend, adviser,
father, Joe
Chang speaks
to Paul Fein
about his greatly
talented son*

No one knows the secrets of Michael Chang's startling success better than his father. Joe Chang, quiet, intelligent and a self-described thinker, modestly likes to downplay his pivotal role first as Michael's astute coach and more recently as coordinator of The Chang Gang from Placentia, California.

Joe was born in China 47 years ago and fled with his parents to Taiwan in 1948 soon after the Communists took over. In 1966 he immigrated to the United States where he met and married Betty, who also had come here from Taiwan. Both are chemists, although Joe recently changed his position at Unocal 76 to director of senior technology sales. Betty travels fulltime with Michael on the pro tour.

Paul Fein—*Did you once say that to produce a champion requires 90 percent information and 10 percent creativity?*

Joe Chang—Yes, just like to write an article, it's 90 percent information gathering. Then you put your own creativity into it. The same thing is true when I



develop a new product.

What kind of information were you gathering?

Everything. Technique, strategy, the mental aspects, everything related to the game. I try to read as much as I can. You've got to talk to all the coaches. During the year I made friends with a lot of great coaches.

Would you please name a few.

We talked to Pancho Segura a lot. Roy Emerson, Dennis Ralston, Phil Dent, Jose Higuera, Brian Gottfried, Stan Smith. See, I have a very open mind so I'm open to the suggestions of all the great coaches.

Why then do you think Arthur Ashe remarked that you alone were far too inexperienced to take Michael any further in his career?

He just didn't really know what I am doing. I'm just guessing here, but the only thing I think Ashe assessed was that I took Michael out of the (U.S.) Junior Davis Cup team in 1987. Perhaps he saw me as shunning the establishment and working only by myself to develop Michael. (But) I'm just a coordinator.

Your Christianity is a source of pride and joy for your family. Does it hurt you when Michael is criticised for being so outspoken about Jesus Christ and his Christian beliefs?

No. I think everybody is entitled to his opinion. For some reason, I feel like God is training Michael in different ways. Just to be up, up, up all the time and have everybody say only good things about you is not a good way to train a person. He has to be able to take the criticism and take the glory from different angles. That's real life. That will make him a much better person.

Do you feel the press has been fair and truthful regarding Michael?

I think they really enjoy him in a press conference. They enjoy communicating with him because he's a different kind of person. He's very natural and has a lot of humour. At this moment he and the press have a mutually

Q: In retrospect are you still shocked or do you believe Michael was ready then (French Open, 1989) for such a huge title?

A: Like I always say, if a player is going to show greatness, he always has to show it before the age of 20. Most of the really great players really have shown that. Michael went through the No. 1 (Ivan Lendl) and No. 3 (Edberg) to win the French. I think that's an incredible accomplishment

Pradeep Paul



Michael's parents, Joe and Betty Chang, at Wimbledon 1989

Q: Pancho Segura predicted in late 1989 that it will take Michael two years to become the greatest player in the world. Do you agree with Pancho?

A: I think probably in another two years Michael will be more physically mature and more experienced. He'll be a much more complete player. I think Segura's prediction will come true.

satisfying relationship.

Do you think that will continue?
It depends. (Laughter)

What does it depend on?

As long as Michael proceeds the way he has been so far on the court and off the court he'll be OK. Besides being quiet and honest and thoughtful, actually he's very entertaining. Most of the time you and others have seen him in competition situations. So you saw him very serious on the court. But, off the court or when he plays

exhibitions, he's actually very entertaining

So one of the secrets about Michael is that he has a nifty sense of humour. Yeah, he does.

At a press conference last year, Michael walked in and curtly announced, "OK, you guys have nine minutes!" That attitude turned off a lot of people.

That was at Wimbledon. He came back at the next press conference and said he was just joking. Everybody started to take it much better then. I think everybody was certain that this kid



COLORSPORT

won the French Open and had become conceited. But Michael was just joking. He just tried to play with the reporters. But people become a lot more sensitive when you say something after you, I guess, become more famous.

What were your emotions at match point against Stefan Edberg when Michael stunned the sports world by winning the French Open?

It was a real, real nice feeling. That was the realisation of a dream that we had never dreamed about at such an early stage of his professional career. Besides being so happy, I was shocked.

Even though Michael is ranked No. 5 now, are you convinced he belongs that high?

I think the press expects him to perform at No. 5 or No. 6 ranking level after the French Open. That's

Q: Although Michael is serious, you also say he is entertaining. Can you give me an example?

A: Well, he interacts with the audience—like when Michael played Jimmy Connors in Hartford. Michael was serving and somebody yelled from the stands, 'Come on John'. He wanted to see McEnroe that's the way it came out. So Michael stopped and looked at the audience, then he started to serve exactly like John does. Then he argued a line call, like the way McEnroe does. The spectators loved it.

unrealistic now. In terms of consistent performance, it's difficult. After the French Open I didn't expect him to win tournament after tournament. Doing that is impossible even for the top five players because the depth of men's tennis is too great. You see a lot of great players win one week and lose in the early rounds the next week.

You're teaching Michael the Chinese language. How important is it that Michael retain some of your Chinese heritage?

As he's grown older, Michael feels that it is very important to him. It's an enjoyment to be able to speak another language, especially Chinese, because Chinese is such a beautiful language. More and more he's becoming curious about Chinese culture, too.

What did the churches want?

They want him to do testimonials and all kinds of things, like speeches at dinners.

When Michael was young and coming up, Jim Hillman of the Southern California Tennis Association commented, "He had what I call the 'X-factor,' a killer instinct, an incredible desire to win without destroying himself in the process." How did you instill that?

Michael showed a tremendous desire to fight until the last point. He also showed tremendous intelligence on the court. The combination makes him a real tough opponent to play against.

Even so, a lot of young, talented players are hindered by immaturity and even craziness. Did you ever have to shape his behaviour?

No, Michael always showed tremendous maturity. He just channeled his energy in the right way. I think he was born with that sense of purpose.

Does Michael want and need increasing independence from you and your wife?

He is very independent. People don't realise it. They just see us around. But, in a lot of respects, if you get close to him, and see the way he handles press conferences

they would know. Actually we let him pretty much alone. We let him make major decisions alone.

What major decisions does he make?

He knows where he wants to play. He makes the decisions on his endorsement contracts and what needs to be modified. We give him our suggestions and recommendations, but Michael makes the final decision most of the time. He's only 17 but he's very mature. He goes through the contracts word by word, really, really carefully.

In September 1987 when Michael was 15, Betty said about Michael "He's still a little boy." Is he still a little boy to you?

I think so, in a way. Michael is always a little boy to his Mom. The fathers treat the boys differently. They always treat them like adults.

So, has Michael matured a lot in the past two or three eventful years?

Yes, tremendously. In every area. In the way to deal with people. He understands what he wants in life much more. How to approach tournaments and prepare for each match. He has gained tremendous knowledge. The way he's travelled all over the world and attracted so much attention has made him grow up faster. He's developing very nicely as a human being.

As the father of a tennis star, what advice would you offer to parents of a talented young player?

Just encourage their children more often— instead of criticising them.

In February 1987 you boldly predicted Michael would lead the U.S. to Davis Cup victory in 1990. Do you think you'll turn out to be right?

Originally, Michael was perfectly on schedule (to do it). Unfortunately the (hip) injury late last year disturbed the schedule a little bit. Otherwise, he would have played the first match (in February) against Mexico. His recovery is OK, but the doctor is very cautious and wants him to take everything very slowly. In a way, it's good.



Steffi: only good for
tennis

PEOPLE

WATTANA GOES MENTAL

JAMES WATTANA, the snooker sensation from Thailand left his country in search for greener pastures and landed on the shores of Britain to set up a professional career there.

Thailand's favourite son, however, does not seem to happy with the way things are going with his personal life and he has with great difficulty begun to endure the most infuriating aspects of the Brit way of living.

Wattana is not a happy man. He has problems going home (visa problems), problems living up to his reputation that he has created back home and presently, emotional problems. He doesn't know whether his lady love will wait to marry him...the list goes on.

Life is always better in Good Old Bangkok, eh?

GLITZY STEFFI

STEFFI GRAF it seems is getting onto the glitzy bandwagon. Her first try at it however, ended with disastrous results.

Steffi should be out of action for roughly six weeks after she fell and broke her right thumb following a skiing accident in St. Moritz.

Scheduled to play a cameo role alongside sporting champs Niki Lauda and Flo Jo in a film called *Fire, Ice and Dynamite*, produced by Willi Bogner the West German director Steffi, while attempting to escape from pursuing photographers, tripped and fell on her right hand.

Apart from other commitments now, Steffi will also miss a possible rendezvous with Jennifer Capriati who will be making her long awaited professional debut.



Don: the 'king of hype'

'KING' OF HYPE

GOD only knows whether this is going to be relevant or not, now that Tyson has gone and got punctured by a certain Mr James Douglas, but the 'king of hype' Don King is planning on the so-called sporting event of the century

The venue is to be the Brandenburg Gate. There, on an acre of what used to be no-man's land behind the ruins of the Berlin Wall they will erect a temporary arena for 25,000 citizens of Europe so that Tyson can defend his unified heavyweight titles. Since Tyson owns (or owned) 3 titles there would be a succession of fights. This will be called the Freedom Fight and will be followed by the Fight For World peace just as soon as Gorbachev can tie up a few loose political ends and provide a suitable Russian contender. This should be the Fight of the Millennium.

But Don now that the goose couldn't lay his golden egg in Tokyo how's it gonna work?

SLOBODAN'S BIG 'BOBO'

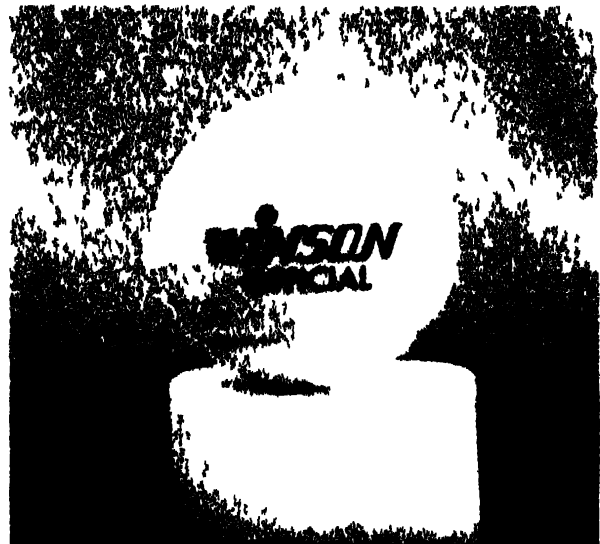
BIG Slobodan Zivoinovic has made a real 'Bobo' so to speak. After failing to lead Yugoslavia to Davis Cup victory against tiny New Zealand, he is to be punished. He will be dropped from the squad and handed over to the army to serve his country in areas other than tennis.

Zivoinovic is now due to begin a compulsory 18-month national service at the end of the year. This

followed Bobo's loss to Kiwi Kelly Evernden after leading two sets to love.

Team captain Radmillo Armenulic is hopping mad and said "It is likely we'll make way for Slobodan to serve his military duty and let in some younger player. Things are then going to change for sure. The youngsters might lose but at least they'll fight."

Let's hope Bobo doesn't 'desert' the country now.



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The 100,000-strong crowd rose as one. Respect thundered out in waves of applause as we took the field. Eleven specimens of the ultimate in physical perfection Kitted out in the finest cricket gear money could buy. Eyes slitted against the bright Calcutta sun. Feet springing off the lush Eden Gardens outfield. We were here to do battle. Do-or-die kind of stuff, y'know.

Fact: Our eyes were slitted alright (courtesy the bright Calcutta sun that reflects off the miles of concrete seats). And the eleven (13 actually) that shuffled onto the Eden Gardens would be better described as a motley crew. Beer-guts, double-chins, they were in abundance. As for the kit, pulled hastily from office-going cupboards, the white ranged from cream to sky blue. Our office team—the amateur one—was going to play its annual cricket fixture against bankers United Bank of India.

A roar of approval filled the stadium as the captain tossed the ball to me. After inspecting the wicket, and deciding which end would afford the searing pace (mine) better lift, I marked out the run-up. Twenty careful measured strides and I was stamping the marker into place with my studded boots. Four slips, a gully, a silly mid-off and a forward short-leg. I waited for the roar to subside. Broke into a trot, gathered speed, leapt, bowled just short of a length, cut back to whiz through the batsman's gate and spreadeagled the

freewheeling

stumps. One ball. One wicket. Delirium.

Fact: No one batted an eyelid when the captain handed me the ball. I decided to open the bowling from the same end where Marshall had sent Gavaskar back first ball. Two slips and a ring on the fence was my field. Loped in, skipped half-a-step to adjust for the crease, turned my arm over, the ball sailed straight to first slip, causing him to recoil in fear even as the poor wicketkeeper dived full-length to stop it. First ball. Wide. The rest of my five overs yielded one wicket—a full toss chopped onto the stumps! The applause that reached my ears when I completed my quota was from the batting side.

The section of the crowd near the scoreboard went crazy as I took up my position at third man. Clamouring for autographs. One particularly attractive girl halfway up the stands actually blew me a kiss! Refusing to let all this distract me, I gritted my teeth in total concentration, anything coming my way would be swooped upon and thudded into the wicket keeper's gloves. Suddenly a hook. Ignoring the sun in my eyes, I side-stepped, back-pedalled, and then took position. The ball stooped at the top of its arc, succumbed to gravity, and fell like a stone straight into my hands. As I threw it up in jubilation, the girl (the same one!) stood and screamed in ecstasy.

Fact: Just one kite (second cousin of an eagle, I think) perched on the looming stands as I was banished to third man. Standing there, I was imagining what it must be like to play to packed Eden Gardens stands. A yell from my teammates shook me out of my reverie. A mis-timed hook in my direction! I side-stepped, back-pedalled and dropped it. To make matters worse, the sun was behind me. The disgusted kite fixed its beady glare on me, then flew away.

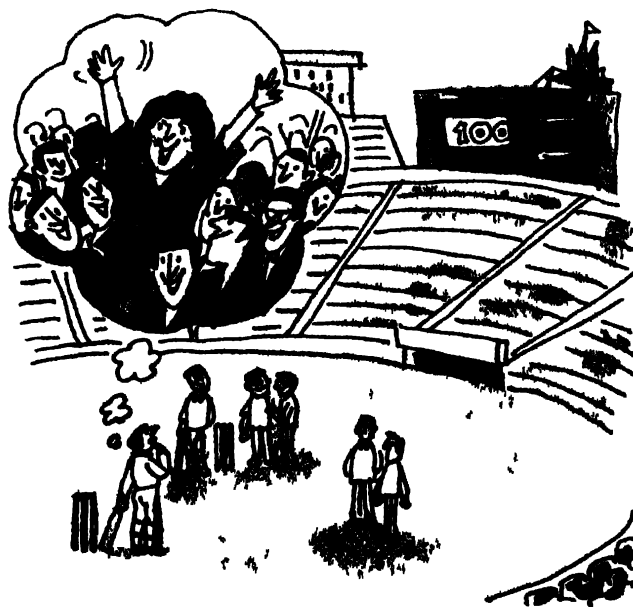
A hush descended on the stadium as I strode out to open the batting. 'Leg stump, umpire.' A quick scan of the field-placing, and into my stance. The ball was fast, pitched on the off and moving further out. I leant back, made room, scythed and the ball rocketed past a flinching point. First ball. Four runs. It took a couple of minutes to get the crowd to settle down. Pretended not to notice.

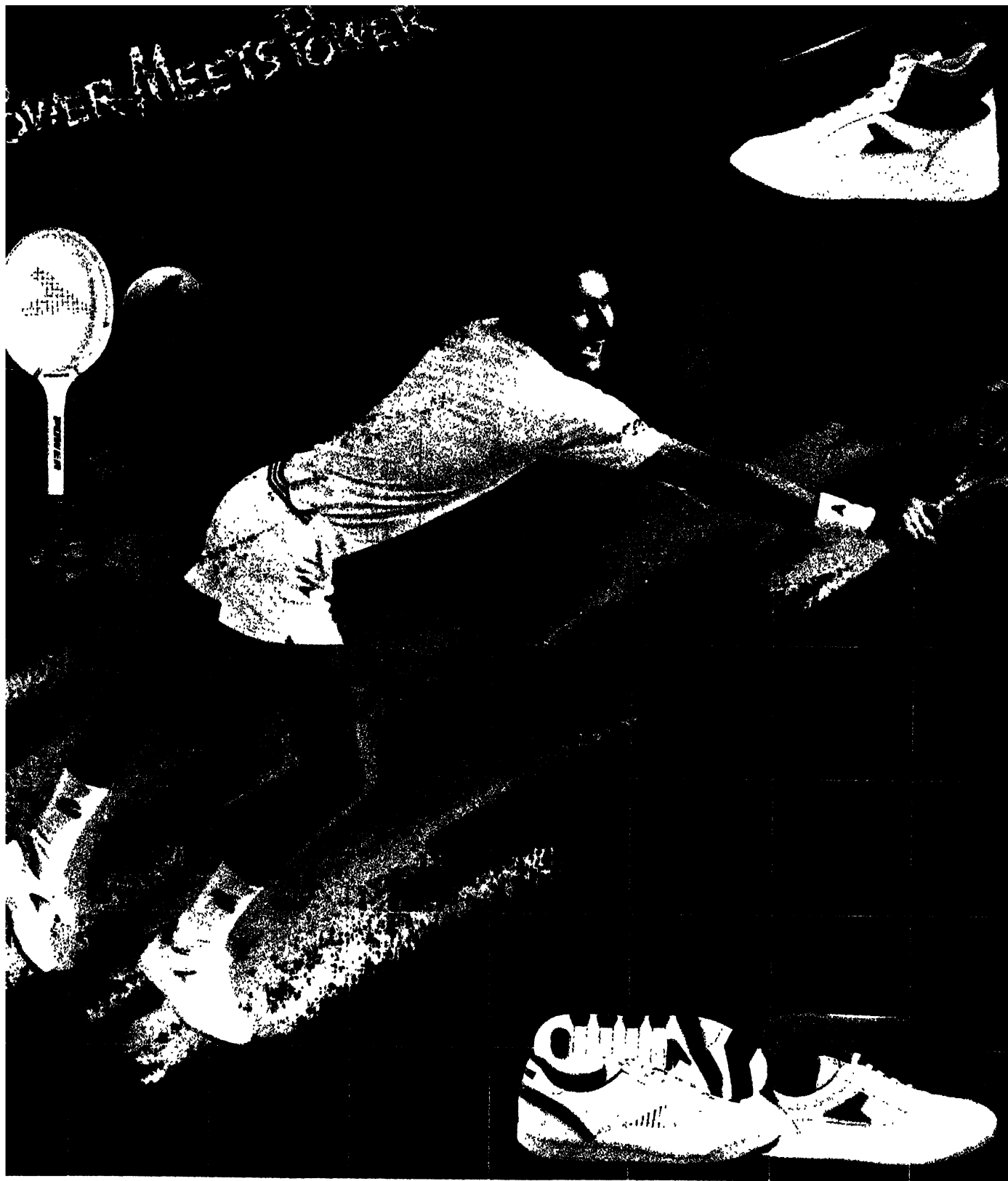
Fact: I nervously walked out to the middle. Having been promoted to open in the absence of our regular opener, I asked my partner to take first strike. Mustn't get a first-ball duck at the Eden, right?

Second over. My strike. The first four balls whizzed past. Couldn't touch them. Gritting my teeth, I swung blindly at the fifth. Connected. And spooned an easy catch.

Duck! It was a very low-profile sports journalist who sat out the rest of the match in the dressing room.

Ah yes, we eventually won. No thanks to me. Pradeep Paul.





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SENSATIONAL:

Skipper Pargat Singh explains why Indian hockey is heading towards ruin

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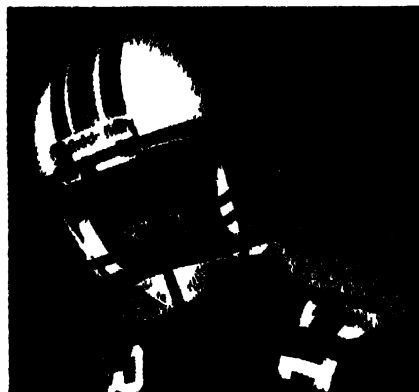
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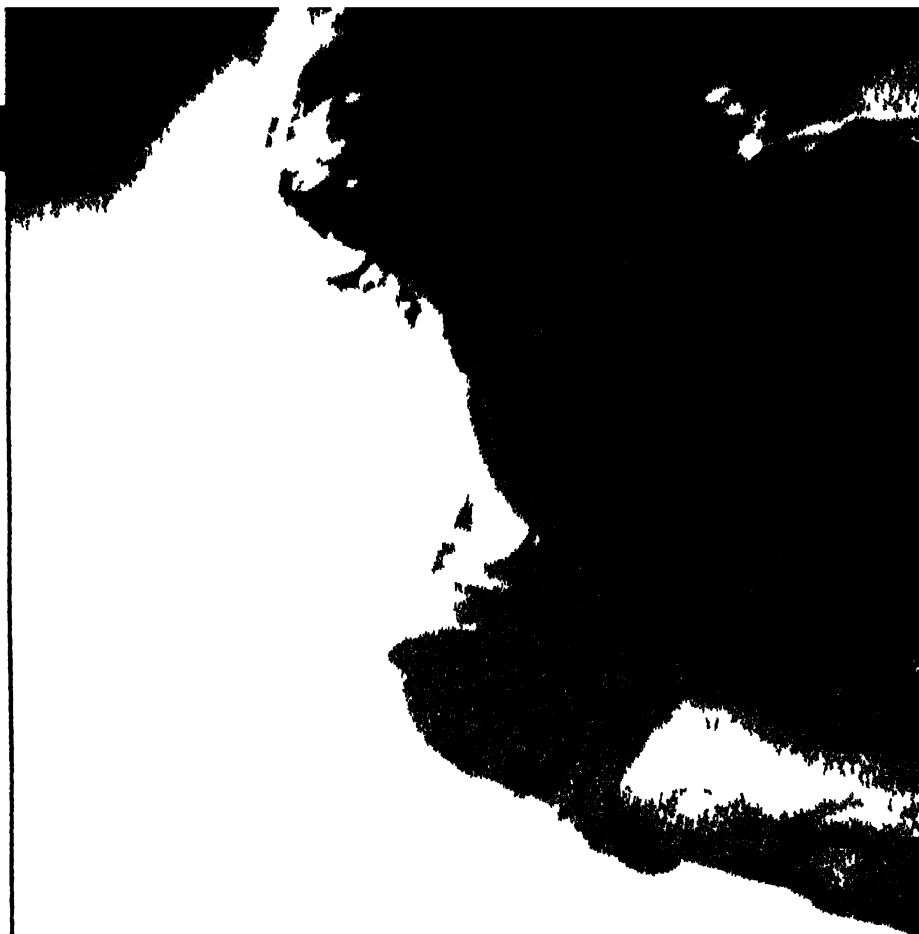
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Sean Kerly did his best to lift the British game at the Lahore World Cup. But it wasn't enough...

7 While Holland wrested the crown of world supremacy in hockey, India finished a dismal 10th at the end of an agonising experience at Lahore. And the ills of Indian hockey were exposed once again. Pargat Singh, in an exclusive interview with Andy O'Brien, talks about the factors plaguing the game in this country.

27 India's cricketing hopes were rekindled for a mighty Indian fightback against New Zealand as Mohammad Azharuddin blazed his way close to what could have been a most memorable double century in recent times. However, centuries by Martin Crowe and Andrew Jones saw New Zealand to the safety of a draw. A report on the third and final Test.

39 Nadia Comaneci unmistakably conjures up images of pure, undiluted grace and beauty. Recently, the celebrated Romanian hit the headlines when she defected to the USA. Here is an exclusive photo feature on the Americanisation of Nadia Comaneci.

76 While apartheid continues to exist in South Africa, despite world condemnation, Rob Hughes outlines how football is increasingly becoming an effective catalyst in the racial chemistry.

INTERVIEW W



Indian hockey captain **PARGAT SINGH** hits out on behalf of the players in a sensational interview to **Andy O' Brien** at Lahore, venue of the Seventh World Cup Hockey championships.

Sportsworld: If you were to pinpoint the primary reason for India's performance at the Lahore World Cup, what would it be?

Pargat Singh: Let's face it, we have a lot of weak points (pause)

On the field or off it?

Yes, on the field too (pause)

Why do you say 'also' in play?

Our main weaknesses in play are the penalty corner defence and the penalty corner attack. The teams that did these two things well fared well in the tournament. And we failed in both.

One reason for this is also that prior to the tournament we did not play against any European teams. Because of this we didn't know the latest tactics and developments of the Europeans. Also, there are many youngsters in our side who had no previous experience of playing against the Europeans.

What about off the field?

Firstly, we have to change the system. Our tournament structure in India has to be redone. In India we have about 70 national level tournaments. What is their standard? I tell you that what we play there is different hockey. Three of those games is equal to one international match on astro turf. In our tournaments, most of which are played on grass, a player has all the space and time in the world. He has the opportunity to think, look up and then decide what he wants to do. But in today's (international) game you don't get the chance to take your time, so to say. So when our players, having been bred on a certain type of hockey, are thrown into international competition, they find they are not getting the ball. So in effect our national competitions don't serve any purpose. Well, at least not for the player or Indian hockey.



WITH PARGAT SINGH



But it does help the organisers, doesn't it?

I don't want to say anything more on that.

You mentioned something about the 'system'. What about that?

For the national level tournaments each player gets Rs. 35 a day. You get one empty room for one team. If anyone has a bedding he puts it down and sleeps, and if you don't have anything then you suffer.

Are you saying that the facilities given to a player are not satisfactory and this has an adverse effect on Indian hockey in general?

No doubt about it.

person who has the capacity to lift a hundred kilos—that is if all his necessities (like diet etc) are seen to. But if you don't give him the required facilities and instead tell him 'we will give you a hundred rupees if you lift hundred kilos', he will not manage to do it. Why? Because how will he reach that level to lift a hundred kilos? It becomes a case of the incentive being there but not the capacity. That is the problem I think, with Indian hockey.

What are you as the captain of the national team doing. And what is the newly formed players' association doing about this?

The problem is that the

"WE need facilities....it becomes the case of the incentive is there but not the capacity. That is the problem I think with Indian hockey."

But aren't the facilities given to a player related to the popularity of the game which in turn depends on how well the national team performs in that sport?

The difference between sportsmen, say in the USA and India, is that out there the sportsperson gets so many facilities from the very start that he neither thinks about (or worries about) other things nor does he do anything apart from perform. *Usko majboor kar deety hain ki woh har haalat mein jeetey.* (By giving them all the facilities they compel them to perform). They say that we will not give you anything if you win. In India they say the opposite. 'Bhai tum Olympic jeeto and we will give you Rs. 3 lakhs or whatever it is. But what is not realised is the prior necessities, which are required for winning a particular tournament. We need facilities. Take for example a

authorities think we are setting up a parallel body. So we are not very eager to function through the players' association. Well, at least for the time being.

But if you were to put forward the demands of the players to improve Indian hockey, what would it be?

The number of all Indian tournaments should be reduced. The standard of play of the teams should be regulated. The standard of facilities for the players should then be upgraded to Rs. 100 a day for each player. The boarding and travelling facilities must be improved. The grounds on which the games are played should be well maintained. And only after all this can you expect the players to perform. You tell me, why is it that today most children back home want to play cricket? Nowadays even a six-year-old kid thinks about his future. He is made to think about it. And he

sees none in hockey.

There are many former players who say 'goodness knows what has happened to today's players. *Yeh ho gaya, woh ho gaya*. What they don't realise is how times have changed.

The other day I was talking to a former player and he too was complaining about today's players. So I asked him if he had gone to college. He replied yes. Then I asked, "You must have worn a pyjama-kurta to college." He replied in the affirmative. I told him very politely, "Sir, today even a lower kindergarten student wears a tie and goes to school." This is the difference between then and now. And you cannot ignore this. Moreover this is the difference between hockey and cricket in our country. Whereas facilities given to the cricketers have more or less maintained a level with the rest of the world, hockey has been left far behind.

I am not mentioning that the Board that controls cricket is far better organised and that the game is well publicised. That is a separate matter. But I will tell you one thing; if things continue as they are, then there will come a time when no youngster will be willing to play hockey in India.

So what is the solution. Merely giving more facilities to the players?

Yes, facilities to players and good arrangements...planning. We don't even have a schedule. We aren't as far behind the other teams as many would think. In fact there is hardly any difference between the top teams. But the difference is that the others have a schedule which they follow. They know exactly how much of



"THE other day when we were playing a match in the rain and were drenched by half time, we would have felt fresh had we changed into a new set of jerseys. But we were only given two pairs and so had to keep the other set for the next day's game. Can you blame the coach for this?"

international competition they should play over those four years. But in our case there is no plan. Sometimes we play six international tournaments a year. Sometimes there are eight international commitments.

Let me give you an example about planning. In Lahore, there were efforts being made by Indian officials to get some of these teams to come for the Indira Gandhi International tournament at



◀ We failed in both the penalty corner attack and defence. Here Ashok Kumar prepares to try his luck at a penalty corner

◀ "They don't want to see India and Pakistan come up

▶ Pargat Singh leaves with his team for yet another international commitment "No planning and no schedule"



Lucknow later this month. They expected at least three of them to come. But no team was prepared to go. The reason being it is not in their schedule. They cannot suddenly decide to go for a tournament since it will mean a break in their schedule. Even a team like Canada turned down the offer. They said they only play three tournaments in the year

Why doesn't the players' association take this up? After all it is you who are

"UNLESS the system is changed not even a foreign coach can do anything. Increase the players' facilities, improve the tournament structure, then get a foreign coach who has played on astro turf. Only then will you get some benefit."



Jude Felix: Not mentally at ease

playing.

This has nothing to do with us. It is up to the management. Do you really think the players can do anything about this? Not a chance.

Is all this because the players are not given that much importance in Indian hockey? Take for instance the national team players are not being allowed to grow because they are not given a chance to think or contribute anything about tactics etc. Do you agree with this example?

Bilkul theek hai (you are absolutely right).

Then who is to blame for this, the coach?

No, it's basically the fault of the system. Why, even the national coach is forced to function as a clerk. He has to run around for the visas, the kit and all the other needs of the team.

But isn't all this the responsibility of the manager of the team?

No, the coach does all this.

Even now when there are managers accompanying the teams?

Aur kya! (What else!)

Let me give you an example. The other day when we were playing a match in the rain and were drenched by half time, we would have felt fresh had we changed into a new set of jerseys. But we were only given two pairs and so had to keep the other set for the next day's game. Can you blame the coach for this?

What about the idea of bringing a foreign coach to train the national team?

Unless the system is changed.

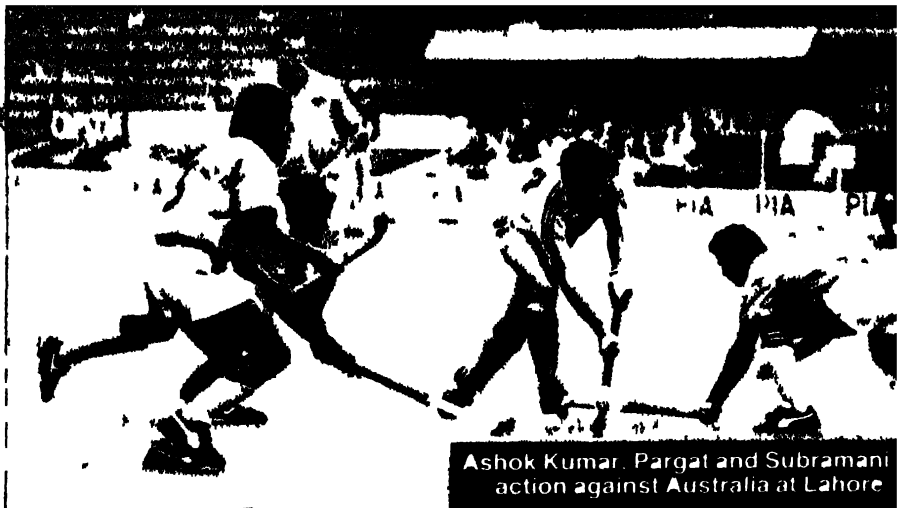
"NOWADAYS even a six year old kid thinks about his future...and he sees none in hockey....if things continue as they are then there will come a time when no youngster will be willing to play hockey in India"

not even a foreign coach can do anything. Increase the players facilities, improve the tournament structure then get a foreign coach who has played on astro turf. Only then will you get some benefit.

I play for the Railways, someone else plays for Indian Airlines yet another for Punjab Police etc. Because of this, though we play together for the national team we don't have a similar schedule. We can only bring an European coach if the entire system is under one schedule.

The coach can then tell the Railways people what their schedule should be, the Punjab Police what schedule they should follow and so on. There has to be a unified schedule and the coach should have all teams' schedules under his responsibility. If the schedule is cohesive then there will be no necessity for such long camps as we have these days. The European coach will therefore have to be given a free hand to do what he desires and as he chooses. The system has to be changed to make the players mentally prepared to perform well. Take Jude Felix for example. I personally think Jude is not mentally at ease to play as well as he actually can. The reason is that he is not financially sound. We too are not financially sound but in Jude's case his parents and his sisters are dependent on him.

So even if you bring a foreign coach, a player in Jude's mental frame of mind will not be able to take advantage unless and until he is mentally at ease with himself. And this can only come about if the player is given all the required facilities. Otherwise what will the foreign coach work with? We don't have any training camps at the junior and sub-junior levels. Their nationals are sometimes not held for years. Yet they should be given more training because the national players are all above 20 and you cannot change their style. You



Ashok Kumar, Pargat and Subramani action against Australia at Lahore

can have as many camps as you want for us but you will never change our style of play. But if you train the youngsters from now they will eventually be able to play just the way you expect us to do presently.

I remember after we lost 3-5 to Argentina, you weren't too happy with the umpiring. You told me that "The FIH does not want Indian hockey" and that "it is our bad management which is to blame for this. Why did you say that? You were obviously annoyed that day. But now, looking back, do you still feel as strongly about it?"

Yes of course. We don't have people in the international body (The FIH). If we had four or five administrators involved in FIH affairs and had a good relationship with the FIH then we can have a say. Only then will the others be scared of us. If we had the necessary influence in the FIH we can have more top-grade umpires. Then the others will think twice before doing any hanky panky because they know we too can retaliate through our umpires. And if you don't have any influence in the FIH then they will do what ever suits them best. *Aur karte bhulain* (and they are even doing it). There's no doubt in it.

You're talking about the umpiring aren't you?

Yes. Tell me what's the difference between us and the

teams 2-1 or 3-2 mostly a one goal difference. *Ek udhar karwa diya ek idhar chhor diya usme kya?* (they let them score once at that end and let them go once at this end. Who knows the difference?)

The official response to the criticism of the umpiring is that the final outcome of no match was affected by the umpiring. And those who are complaining are merely making excuses for their poor performance. What do you have to say about this?

No no no. You saw the Holland-Australia game in this tournament. And you saw the India-Argentina match. There was a vast difference in the umpiring. When they see that body they are not even given a warning. Yet when our players indulge in body play they are given a warning and the opposition is awarded a penalty corner.

Why is this?

Because they do not want India and Pakistan to come up. But how come Pakistan have done pretty well in spite of this so-called prejudice?

Simply, because Pakistan this time were the hosts. And of course you know too well the kind of influence Pakistan has in the FIH.

But isn't it the responsibility of the Indian officials to see to it that they have some say in the international body?

That's why I'm saying it's a management problem. It's bad management. And that's the major problem with Indian hockey. ●

"JUDE FELIX is not mentally at ease to play as well as he actually can. The reason is that he is not financially sound. We too are not financially sound, but in Jude's case his parents and sisters are dependent on him. How can he play without a free mind?"

VIEWPOINT

Tucked away in a corner of room number 526 at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore were a couple of hockey sticks, loosely clustered together. Not altogether an unusual sight but there was more. The sticks were adorned by a scattering of yellow flowers and small plastic pictures of deities. Quite obviously it was a small, hastily constructed but poignant, place of worship.

Room 526 belonged to the Indian captain Pargat Singh, a warm quiet Sardar and a helluva hockey player. That Pargat Singh does a simple *puja* over his sticks is not unusual—it is his tool for success. But moreso it is his tool to make a living. But Pargat Singh perhaps also knows that however much he invokes the Gods for help, however well he may play, however magically his stick may function, it does not matter in the end. Success is beyond Gods and individual performance. For the recipe for success is bred in the minds of intelligent men who make intelligent plans, who offer sensible coaching advice, who ensure the players live well, are treated well, who make sure the right surfaces are there to practice on, who recognise talent early and nurture it. It is these men who dictate through their moves whether success is indeed possible in 20th century sport. The players themselves are to a large extent their instruments.

Because the team is the representation, the product of the system. And if the system, and the men who form and run it are incompetent and uninventive then the team, the product, is bound to be inferior.

Everywhere through this country people—peasants, traders, farmers, businessmen, corporate bigwigs, writers, men, women, children—have groaned at every Indian loss at the Lahore World Cup. They have sneered, scorned, maligned, criticised every Indian player, the manager and their tactics.

Examine then these points for example, some in fact told to our assistant editor Andy O'Brien by Pargat Singh.

1) During national tournaments players get a ridiculous Rs 35 a day allowance, and a team is piled into one room, with no beds and mattresses or decent living amenities.

2) During international tournaments players get a daily allowance of \$ 10 a day. Compare this with the Indian cricketers who during the West Indies tour got a lump sum of Rs 65,000 and \$ 35 a day.

3) This creates a financial burden for hockey players—Pargat says. Jude Felix has to support his family. How can he play without a free mind? True, no Test cricketer faces such

INDIAN HOCKEY

financial worries, and we call hockey our national sport. Felix, a lovely stickwork specialist, is probably more worried about staying in the team than anything else.

4) After the Berlin Champions Trophy last year the team was to fly to America for the Inter Continental Cup. But poor management meant that the US visas had not been done and the team was forced to present itself in London to get them. A waste of time and energy. Poor planning.

5) India was the only team not to play warm up matches before the Lahore World Cup. The Federation refused, or forgot, to organise them. As a result the Indian team was unaware of the new 'dummy' penalty corner conversions and could neither use it or defend against it.

6) The Indian team for the Lahore World Cup were given just two sets of kit. One light blue shirt and one alternative dark blue

shirt. Thus if a player tore his shirt, got wet in the rain, or sweated excessively, he was unable to change.

7) The Indian team is the only team to rely on one man—the coach. The manager has no idea of modern hockey and the doctor is not a physical trainer. This is anachronistic in world class sport. Take the Australian team for example: their team is accompanied by a manager, coach, assistant coach, selector, executive board member, physiotherapist, doctor, consultative committee and video technician.



Thoiba's indirect penalty corner conversions were hampered by poor planning

8) And lastly one recent incident that typifies what it means to play hockey for India. Andy O'Brien, returning from Lahore, found that three Bombay based players Dhanraj Pillai, Edgar Mascarenhas, Mark Patterson— and former captain M M Somaya, did not have a confirmed ticket on a Delhi Bombay flight (Mascarenhas who was to return to Lucknow 3 days later for the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup was obviously desperate for a few extra hours at home) O'Brien suggested they approach the duty officer and request seats on IC 405 due to leave in 45 minutes but sensing their

reluctance and embarrassment, made the request himself. The duty officer's answer was non-committal, so O'Brien this time suggested the players don their blazers and approach the duty officer. Mascarenhas agreed donned his blazer only to be scolded by the rest. "Are you mad, take off that blazer. Otherwise you've had it." The inference was obvious they did not wish to be identified as Indian players for the fear of being ridiculed and chastised for their Lahore performance. It was, O'Brien said, "One of the most tragic scenes I have witnessed".

I am not trying to absolve the

players of any blame. No doubt some are negligibly talented, or lazy, or unintelligent, or grumble constantly or unmotivated. The reason for listing these incidents and examples is to make aware the system and conditions under which they are asked to train and perform.

Mr R Prasad, President of the Indian Hockey Federation is an intelligent man. A reasonable man I am told. Surely he is aware, and if so, then he must be equally culpable.

What can he do, you may well ask? The answer is an old one. Draw up a 5-10 year plan, conceived by five of hockey's wise men—men of honesty, not hankering for publicity, uninterested in inconsequential personal ego battles. Men eager to achieve and open to ideas and innovations. Then a foreign adviser to help manufacture a hockey infrastructure that encompasses even the sub-junior

'Take Off That Blazer!'



The team is the representation, the product of the system. And if the system, and the men who form and run it are incompetent and uninventive then the team, the product, is bound to be inferior....

level. If the plan is viable, the money will come. The Indian national team must be accompanied by a coterie of competent tacticians, including a coach, two assistant coaches, a doctor, a physical trainer and first class facilities. Organise a workable schedule and reduce their camps so the physical and mental pressure is eased. Basically deluge India's hockey players with the best of everything. Then if they do not perform we will see.

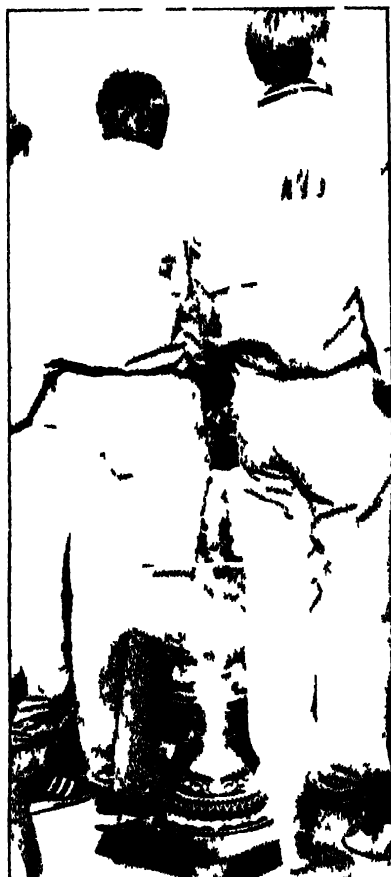
— By Rohit Brijnath. Reported by Andy O'Brien, Lahore

STATISTICAL

Hockey statistics
comes of age

Ignacia Escude of Spain scored
a total of 10 goals

The Dutch fully deserved
their victory



(FINAL PENALTY CORNERS/STROKES CONVERSIONS)

POS.	COUNTRY NAME	PENALTY CORNERS AWARDED	CONVERTED
1	HOLLAND	27	11
2	PAKISTAN	42	6
3	AUSTRALIA	23	7
4	WEST GERMANY	29	7
5	ENGLAND	31	4
6	U.S.S.R.	24	5
7	FRANCE	32	7
8	SPAIN	28	8
9	ARGENTINA	34	6
10	INDIA	29	2
11	CANADA	14	1
12	IRELAND	28	2
TOTALS		343	42

HIGHLIGHTS

▶
Floris Bovelander:
 Highest number of
 goals from penalty
 corners, eight

▶
Fischer is
 congratulated
 after
 scoring from
 a penalty corner
 to draw Germany
 level with Holland



% AGE CONVERSION	PENALTY CORNERS AWARDED AGAINST	CONVERTED	% AGE CONVERSION	PENALTY STROKES AWARDED	PENALTY STROKES AWARDED AGAINST
41%	37	3	8%	7	4
14%	20	3	25%	3	0
30%	31	4	13%	0	1
24%	24	3	13%	1	2
13%	34	6	18%	0	1
19%	37	7	19%	2	1
9%	21	1	5%	2	4
29%	25	4	14%	1	2
18%	28	9	32%	2	2
7%	30	7	23%	3	3
7%	31	5	16%	0	0
7%	25	8	32%	0	1
10%	34	4	18%	21	21

TOTAL NUMBER OF GOALS SCORED: 147, 143 in the full time of play and four in extra time, in 42 matches (Avg 3.50)

MOST GOALS SCORED BY A TEAM: 21 by Holland in 7 matches.

MOST GOALS CONCEDED BY A TEAM: 18 each by India and Ireland in 7 matches.

MOST PENALTY CORNERS AWARDED BY A TEAM IN A MATCH: 14 by Pakistan against England

MOST GOALS IN A MATCH: 9 (Pakistan 6, Spain 3)

SHORTEST VICTORY: 4 (W. Germany 4, Ireland 0, England 4, France 0)

HAT TRICKS: Four, Shahbaz Ahmed (Pakistan) vs Spain
 Floris Jan Bovellender (Holland) vs Soviet Union
 Escude Ignacio (Spain) vs England
 Carlos Genero (Argentina) vs Ireland

TOP SCORER: Escude Ignacio (Spain) 10 goals

PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT: Shahbaz Ahmed (Pakistan)

FINAL POSITION :

Country	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Success %
1. Holland (7)*	7	5	1	1	21	13	78.57
2. Pakistan (11)	7	4	1	2	13	10	64.28
3. Australia (1)	7	6	—	1	17	7	85.71
4. West Germany (3)	7	5	—	2	16	7	71.42
5. England (2)	7	4	1	2	12	7	64.28
6. Soviet Union (4)	7	2	2	3	8	12	42.85
7. France	7	3	1	3	9	13	50.00
8. Spain (5)	7	3	—	4	14	16	42.85
9. Argentina (6)	7	3	1	3	15	15	50.00
10. India (12)	7	1	1	5	12	18	21.42
11. Canada (10)	7	1	1	5	6	11	21.42
12. Ireland	7	—	1	6	4	18	07.14

* Last World Cup's position in brackets.

FIELD GOALS

FOR	AGN.
3	7
6	5
10	2
8	3
9	1
3	4
4	9
5	11
7	4
8	8
5	6
2	9
69	69

PENALTY CORNERS STROKES CONVERSIONS :

Country	P/C : Awarded	Conver- ted	Conver- sion %	P/C against	Conversion	%	Penalty aw'ded	St. Conv.
Holland	27	11	40.74	37	3	8.10	6	6
Pakistan	42	6	14.28	20	5	25.00	4	2
Australia	23	7	30.43	31	4	12.90	—	—
W. Germany	29	7	24.13	24	3	12.50	1	1
England	31	4	12.90	34	6	17.64	1	—
Soviet Union	26	5	19.23	37	7	18.91	1	—
France	32	3	9.37	21	1	4.76	2	2
Spain	28	8	28.57	25	4	16.00	1	1
Argentina	34	6	17.64	28	9	32.14	2	2
India	29	2	6.89	30	7	23.33	3	2
Canada	14	1	7.14	31	5	16.12	—	—
Ireland	28	2	7.14	25	8	32.00	—	—
Total	343	62	18.07	343	62	18.07	21	16

Compiled by S. Pervez Qaiser in Lahore





STANDPOINT

AND NOW THE HOCKEY JOKERS!

IHF President
R. Prasad:
Crash landing!

SO, chances are that the dropping of the 14 players is mere eyewash, an attempt on the part of the IHF to show they have taken 'severe action' for the non-performance in the World Cup. When in fact, there was no way out but to play a junior team at Lucknow.

Andy O'Brien

"FOURTEEN players axed" screamed the headlines of the sports pages dated February 27. Fourteen of the 16

players who represented India at the seventh world hockey championships at Lahore, which had ended three days earlier, had been "dropped" by the Indian Hockey Federation for the Indira Gandhi Hockey tournament being played at Lucknow. The news must have shocked everyone. Everyone, but the fourteen players who were involved. They must have laughed at the news.

Consider the circumstances. Since the Indira Gandhi tournament was scheduled to be held soon after the World Cup, it was decided that the players who went to Lahore would be in no condition to play at Lucknow. Their schedule, which included numerous camps and the Asia Cup, had been exhausting to say the least. Many felt the Indian team were in fact a jaded lot even before they reached Lahore. Therefore, to expect them to play in Lucknow would be inhuman. Moreover, none of the top teams were coming to Lucknow. This was seen as an ideal opportunity to give the Indian second string some international experience.

Therefore, it was taken for granted, even during the World Cup, that none of the squad would be present at Lucknow. When Pargat Singh was asked at Lahore airport's departure lounge if he was going to Lucknow, he replied, "What's the use? we are tired. But some of us would have played if the better teams were going. With none of the world cup teams ready to play it is better if the younger guys get a chance."

In fact it was at the airport that Edgar Mascarenhas and Dhanraj Pillai announced that they were the only two from the squad who were going to Lucknow because being new to the squad their schedule had not been all that strenuous.

It is therefore obvious that the team for

the Lucknow event was probably selected before the team even left for Lahore because the players knew who was to play at Lucknow and who were not to play. Why then did the IHF chief Mr. R. Prasad claim that the players had been 'axed' and "we can no longer depend on players who in spite of several chances failed to produce the desired results"? This of course is not the first time Mr. Prasad has said something to this effect in his tenure as the IHF President. So, chances are that all this is a mere eyewash. An attempt on the part of the IHF to show they have taken severe action for the non-performance in the world cup when in fact there was no way out but to play a junior team at Lucknow.

If however it is true that the players have been dropped and the IHF is indeed laying more stress on youngsters then it is a stupid gamble.

Ever since the Seoul Asian Games in 1986 the policy has been to build a team with the Beijing Asian Games (1990) as the ultimate goal. This itself was a ridiculous ambition since an Asian medal doesn't really count too much in modern hockey. But beggars can't be choosers and a gold at Beijing could actually save Indian hockey. Already out of the next Champion's Trophy, World Cup and Olympic Games, India desperately need to be Asian Champions to come back into the top of world hockey. Yet it seems the IHF wants to abandon its four-year project a mere seven months before Beijing.

Even coach M. P. Ganesh is officially contracted till Beijing.

But Mr. Prasad says that "the need of the hour is to build a national team from scratch and a start is being made at the Indira Gandhi tournament."

With seven months to go for the ultimate test, one wonders if it is worth throwing away three years of work.

Or is the latest announcement of removing an entire team just another gimmick of our shortsighted hockey management? ●

AT the Crowe home in New Zealand, the cricket star Martin Crowe was packing his bags for his next assignment. A couple of suitcases lay open in front of him. "Socks, flannels, trousers, blazers," muttered Martin Crowe as he pushed these items into the suitcases. "Pads, gloves, boots, abdominal protector, helmet."

Mrs Crowe came in with a cup of hot tea and placed it in front of her husband. "Can I help?" she enquired.

"It's almost over," replied Martin and held out his hand for the tea. Mrs Crowe cast an expert eye on the suitcases. "Not bad," she observed. Her eyes rested on a bulge at one particular corner of the suitcase. "What's that?" she asked.

Martin looked up from the cup. "Oh, that," he exclaimed airily. "The gun, just the gun and some shells."

Mrs Crowe's eyes widened in shock. "Look, you cricketers are always well protected. Do you think you need a gun?"

Crowe continued to sip his tea and said nothing. "I don't think you need to carry a gun," she went on. "I'm sure Richard Hadlee does not carry one and there is no need for your one-upmanship on Richard. Dangerous things, these guns. Stay away from them."

Martin Crowe put down his cup and wiped his mouth with a hanky. "Look, I'm committed to carrying a gun. My readers, my fans would expect me to carry one and I can't disappoint them. And don't go on comparing me with Richard Hadlee."

"You go out there and score centuries," snapped Mrs Crowe. "And for that you don't need a gun."

"Listen, you don't understand," Martin shot back. "I can take care of my batting without your comments. I need the gun to shoot groundsmen, how can I do it with my bat?"

Mrs Crowe looked at her husband warily but said nothing.

"Ever since I wrote in my column that the bloke who prepared the pitch at McLean's Park ought to be shot, I've been receiving letters supporting my stand."

The Crowe Shoot



explained Martin. "And after the final day's play was washed off, at least 25 people asked me why I did not shoot the groundman. I can't go on disappointing them, can I?"

"I don't know how you get into these scrapes," exclaimed the wife. "Why can't you just glare at the umpire, abuse the opponents and do something like that?" Carrying the gun, and all this talk of shooting scares me."

"Why should you be scared?" asked Martin. "It's the groundsmen who should be. Of course, once my threat was published in the newspapers. John Wright informed me that Gary Walkin who prepared the McLean Park wicket was actually Napier City Council's parks officer and knows a lot about guns."

Mrs Crowe was now almost in tears. And when that's the case, isn't it dangerous to go

about carrying guns and threatening to shoot groundsmen? There may be others even more competent than Mr Walkin in handling guns."

"I don't think so," said Martin Crowe. "We are pushing off to England during the summer. During my playing days at Somerset, I checked up with quite a few groundsmen. None of them could handle guns."

"Do you mean to say you intend carrying this gun to England and threaten its groundsmen?" asked Mrs Crowe.

"Look, everyone in the game knows that I'm a square shooter," explained Martin Crowe. "My word is respected and I can't allow the groundsmen at Lord's, Old Trafford and the Oval get away with slow, flat wickets. New Zealand's honour is at stake."

"I still prefer you with a bat and not a gun," said his wife.

"The English are messing up pitch preparation," snapped Martin. "The disease has become so common that even if I don't score a thousand runs in May, I may end up as the fastest gun in the Kiwi camp."

GOLF SPECTACULAR!



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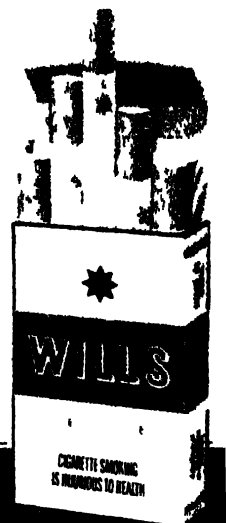
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WEAR SUITINGS FOR MEN

THIRD TEST,
VIA-NEW ZEALAND
AUCKLAND

Super
Takes
ALL OF THEM

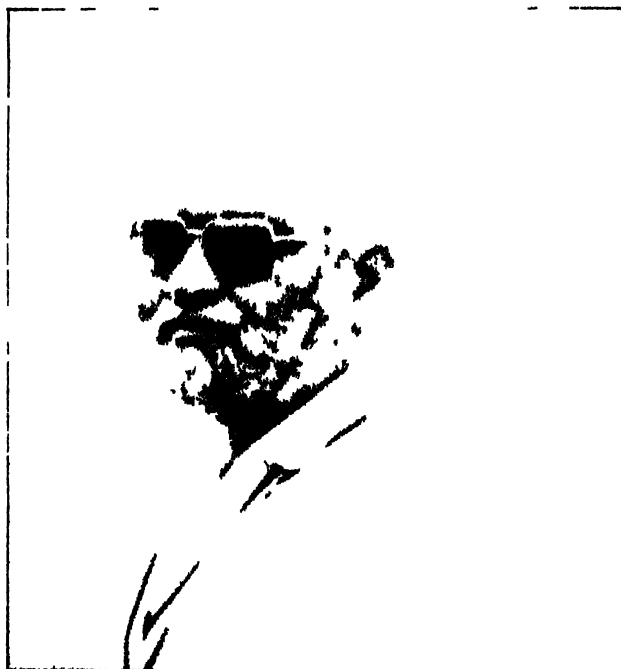


STANDARD BOTTLE
125000000

HOW INDIA LOST THE SERIES IN NEW ZEALAND DUE TO... **ONE BAD INNINGS!**

BISHAN Singh Bedi's first Test series as cricket manager has been a mixed bag. It may not have been an unqualified success the Indians lost the first Test at Christchurch by ten wickets and the series eventually 0-1 but Bedi looked back with satisfaction on a job well done by the end of the third Test in Auckland. As he is fond of reminding everyone who needs reminding the series was really decided on the basis of "one bad innings that we played" referring to India's 164 in their first innings in the Christchurch Test.

Seldom has an Indian team manager, cricketer or otherwise been so high-profiled as Bedi has on this tour. The creation of the post of cricket manager itself was viewed with suspicion in some quarters and the choice of Bedi for that post too raised some eyebrows. He was known to have been bitterly opposed to the team under Dilip Vengsarkar defying the Board and going on the unauthorised cricket



Bishan Bedi, Indian cricket manager, spends an evening analysing what went wrong with his side—and what went right! Interview by Ashok Kamath

tour of the US and Canada after the ill-fated trip through the West Indies last year.

He is known to have had a big say in the composition of the tour party and the choice of Gursharan Singh, for example, was seen as a

product of his insistence. He made it clear that he, more than skipper Mohammed Azharuddin, would be the one briefing the press and so could we please direct all our questions at him? No, not once did he restrain

Azharuddin or any other member of the team from talking to the press on tour if anything he encouraged youngsters like Sachin Tendulkar to 'gain confidence' by appearing on New Zealand telly.

Within the first couple of weeks of the tour senior cricketer Kapil Dev was openly conceding that Bishan Singh Bedi had done a great job as cricket manager. He had a lot of nice things to say behind Bedi's broad back. "Bishan took a great load off the chest of Azhar. I wish I had someone like Bishan to look after the things he has looked after (on this tour) when I started out as captain," Kapil said midway on the tour.

Bedi fielded questions even as the final Test of the series was winding its way to a farcical draw on the last day.

Excerpts
For all the glorious cricket we have had on the first four days of the Auckland Test, was not the final day a great anti-climax?

It was but you'll have to blame it on the rain.

Just the rain? Why not

skipper John Wright, who may have been a trifle too defensive when he asked you to get 393 runs in 64 overs?

Maybe Wrighty did not want to take any risk at all and that is why he set us such an impossible target. But being one-love up in the series and having played us out of the Test by the fourth evening you

before coming up for the final Test in Auckland. But the rain gods thought otherwise.

Would you then say that the 1-0 verdict in favour of New Zealand is an inaccurate reflection of the teams? No. What I am saying is that they applied themselves better in Christchurch and took the lead in the series.

disappointed with himself more than we are. When he got into that rut of two-three bad innings he may have become awfully short on self-confidence. But we still had faith in his ability. For him it was always a question of sticking around at the wicket for a while before he would get going. Which is exactly what

In your estimation, what are the significant gains of the tour till the end of the Tests?

Atul Wassan came along very well and has kind of established himself as a member of the Indian pace attack. He grabbed the opportunities that came his way and bowled very well. He is the quickest bowler we have at the moment. Venkatapathi Raju too did well for himself. It was a bit tragic we had to drop him for the last Test because he did not fit into our game-plan but that was no reflection either on his



PHOTOGRAPH BY MANOHAR

'Atul Wassan has kind of established himself as a member of the Indian pace attack. He is the quickest bowler we have'

could scarcely have expected him to let us in with a softer target.

What was it that made the difference between the two sides?

Both India and New Zealand were equally matched, really. We played just one bad innings (the second of the Christchurch Test) and were doomed for it. I wish the Napier Test had not been rain-affected. We were very determined to settle scores there

Except for Azhar, the experienced players of the team have not done well in the series...

I do not want to look at it that way. It is not a question of an experienced player or an inexperienced player: you have to assess the team's performance as one unit, as one whole.

What about Dilip Vengsarkar? Would you count him as one of the failures or....?

I think Dilip is probably

happened to him in Auckland before he got himself out at 47.

And where would you place Kapil's performance?

Kapil has to get back to his wicket-taking days and he, more than anyone else, knows that. His head is dropping a bit, his arm is going around instead of nice and high...I've told him this and he's getting back to working on them once he gets to Delhi.

potential or how he actually performed in the first two Tests. And both Wassan (in Auckland) and Raju (in Christchurch) batted remarkably well for tailenders. These two youngsters are the finds of the tour. Gursharan came into his own and Ajay Sharma too had played himself into a position where he had to consider him for the one-dayers. Sanjay Manjrekar at No. 3 had a poor Test run but after two fabulous tours of the West Indies and Pakistan I suppose the law of averages caught up with him. Sachin Tendulkar had a fantastic 88 in Napier and looked as good as gold but I only hope he

learns to value his wicket a lot more. He is such a wonderful batsman, his wicket should not go to any Tom, Dick or Harry. Kiran More came through as a tremendously combative cricketer and his batting in Napier and Auckland was super. And remember, he kept wickets and batted despite dislocating a finger during the closing stages of the New Zealand first innings in Auckland. Azhar's first series as captain showed beyond a shadow of doubt that the captaincy has not

'Azhar showed tremendous temperament for the new job: quiet, unassuming and on the ball'

affected his batting one bit. He showed tremendous temperament for the new job: quiet, unassuming and on the ball.

And what about M Venkatramana and Vivek Razdan? How much have they progressed on the tour? Both of them worked hard on the tour but for some reason they did not click. Had Venkatramana bowled well in the first match that he played he might not have been dropped for any of the three Tests. Yes, we could have done with an off spinner like him in the Tests. New Zealand, after all, have four left-handed batsmen and

Ramana could have been effective. To my mind it is a question of his getting some confidence about his abilities. He will have to work on it. We have chatted about it on this tour and he has to work out things himself. Razdan's case is pure and simply one of inexperience. He has to go through the grind of first class cricket to find

not quite do so. That's it. There was no question of anyone being denied a chance to stake his claim or someone being given a better chance than the others.

The fact that Woorkeri Raman and Manoj Prabhakar produced the top two (unconquered 149 in Auckland and 80 in Christchurch) opening

Srikkanth is in around that time. And do not forget we have another man called V B Chandrasekhar as a specialist opener. He too may like to get a fair look in, you know.

Did you have much of a problem persuading Prabhakar to open the batting?

Manoj is a wonderful



his feel in the international arena. But I am sure he will come along well soon.

But considering there were just three matches in all for the nonregulars to work their way into the playing 11, can you say they did not have enough opportunities to find their feet?

Everyone was given equal opportunities. Chaps like Wassan and Raju grabbed them. Ramana and Vivek did

partnerships for India in the last three years does not resolve the problem of using makeshift openers, does it? They showed they are the best pair we have at the moment didn't they? It is very tempting to continue with that combination. But seriously, it is not fair to Manoj. This cannot be a permanent arrangement. Hopefully, Sidhu will be back in time for Sharjah and England. And let us see what kind of form

cricketer. And you cannot get a better team man. He would do anything in the interests of the team. No, it was not a problem. We felt a bit bad asking him to shoulder such a burden but he clicked wonderfully. Manoj was the best Indian bowler on view during the three Tests. He may not have got a great many wickets but the number of times he beat batsmen was incredible. Truly incredible. ●

REVIEW

SEVENTH WORLD CUP HOCKEY, LAHORE, 1990

HAIL

In a sense it was the tournament of the underdog. Both the finalists, Holland and Pakistan, should view their performance as a

rejuvenation of hockey in their country. Holland, for many years now, have been rebuilding their side after the retirement of many illustrious seniors. Of course they have had to pay the price for it, languishing way down in the hockey hierarchy for some time. In fact, they had to qualify for this tournament by winning the Intercontinental Cup. It has been a sacrifice well worth it. And more: It was 17 years ago that the Dutch annexed this title for the first time, and now they can truly lay claim to be one of the best teams in the world. Currently they are the World champions, European champions, Olympic bronze medallists and Champions Trophy runners up.

If the Lahore tournament taught the world a lesson in percentage hockey and the importance of the penalty corner,

the Dutch were masters of both. Of the 21 goals they scored in the tournament, 11 were penalty corner conversions and seven from penalty strokes, a majority of which resulted from penalty corners. Playing with three forwards—Erick Parlevliet, Gys Weterings and Tom Van't Hek—they managed only three field goals and yet would qualify as one of the most efficient front lines in the tournament, such was their competence in enforcing penalty corners.

As the passion grew among the spectators, it crossed over the wire fencing and spread among the players. But the Dutch ensured that their dream was deprived of a climax.



HOLLAND!



If the Lahore tournament taught the world a lesson in percentage hockey and the importance of the penalty corner, then the Dutch were masters of both

While describing percentage hockey, renowned coach Horst Wein remarked, "Why waste so much energy just go for the success. Play for the penalty corner. The coach that worries about the spectators will lose the points." There could be no truer description than this of the Dutch game. And mind you, it is a compliment for no team played as close to their plan as the Champions did.

Though they did play as a team and to a strategy, Holland would not have gone all the way without the effective distribution of captain Marc Dellisen. And, of course, the penalty corner conversions of that enigma of a player, Floris Jan Boveland. Shirt out of his baggy shorts, Boveland appears almost harmless to one who has not

Masters of the world Holland

witnessed his prowess. He resembles a fed up college lad who has been forced out of his bed and handed a stick to play hockey, so unassuming does he look on the field. Holland were awarded 27 penalty corners in the tournament. Of which 11 (41 per cent) were converted while five resulted in penalty strokes which eventually culminated in goals.

AT the other end of the scale was runners up Pakistan who forced 42 penalty corners, by far the highest in the tournament. But only six of these were converted at a successful percentage of 14, one of the lowest in the tournament. This speaks volumes for the Pakistan forwards who were instrumental

in the success of the host team. Field goals and umpteen missed chances characterised the Pakistan game, and most of these were through the genius of one man, Shabaz Ahmed.

Not in his element for some time now, Shabaz blossomed in Lahore. And what a sight it was. While other forwards hustled and pushed to achieve advantage, this lanky Pakistani weaved his way through defences with classical brilliance. The inside left was, of course, ably supported by Wasim Feroz on the flank and the three other forwards. When the five of them moved into the attack, it was almost like a tidal wave engulfing the opposition goal, fast, forceful and dangerous. Yet, ironically, it was at the vital moment that the Pakistani forwards failed to click the semi-finals and the finals.



Against Australia and Holland, in the semis and the finals respectively, the right flank was redundant. The over-dependence on Shabaz was as obvious as it was fatal. But whereas the penalty corner conversions came to the rescue against the Australians (both Pakistan's goals come through conversions), the same was not to be in the final.

Not too much was expected of the Pakistan team before the tournament began. Even the most fanatical supporter merely gave his team an outside chance to reach the semi finals, and that too primarily because of the inherent advantages of playing at home. However, with each success Lahore brightened. By the semi finals it had given way to delirium. So much so that the Australian coach Frank Murray, without making excuses, admitted after his team's semi final loss, "yes, we were a little overawed by the crowds."

And as the passion grew among the spectators, it crossed over the

The Holland bench celebrates the moment of victory against the Germans

wire fencing and spread among the players. But the Dutch ensured that their dream was deprived of a climax. Outplayed in the opening minutes of the final and down by a Shabaz goal, the Dutch fought back to demolish the hopes and aspirations of the 70,000 odd spectators present at the National Stadium.

The atmosphere resembled a rowdy football match, so intense was the passion. To overcome their nerves, the Dutch made a smart move; arriving at the ground an hour before the final to soak in the atmosphere. Yet manager Joost Bellart claimed, "we were still nervous in the opening minutes of the game. But once we settled down we were in control."

THE Australians, who finished third by beating West Germany in the play

off, paid the price for their inexperience. Cruising through the league games with an all-win record, they stumbled when it came to the crunch.

Billed as the favourites, the defending champions probably missed the services of Mark ('The Horrible') Hagar who has been their most consistent scorer over the last year. Murray summed up his team's performance saying with tears in his eyes, "we made a few errors in judgement and it cost us dearly. We had a few inexperienced players but we can put all this down to a learning experience. We will go back and rethink a few things. As I said, it has been a learning experience." Surely must have been. After all, they had an 85 per cent success rate and yet finished third.

The West Germans cannot look at things the same way. They too rode roughshod over the opposition in the league games, conceding a mere two goals in the five matches. But the semi final saw them allow the Dutch three.



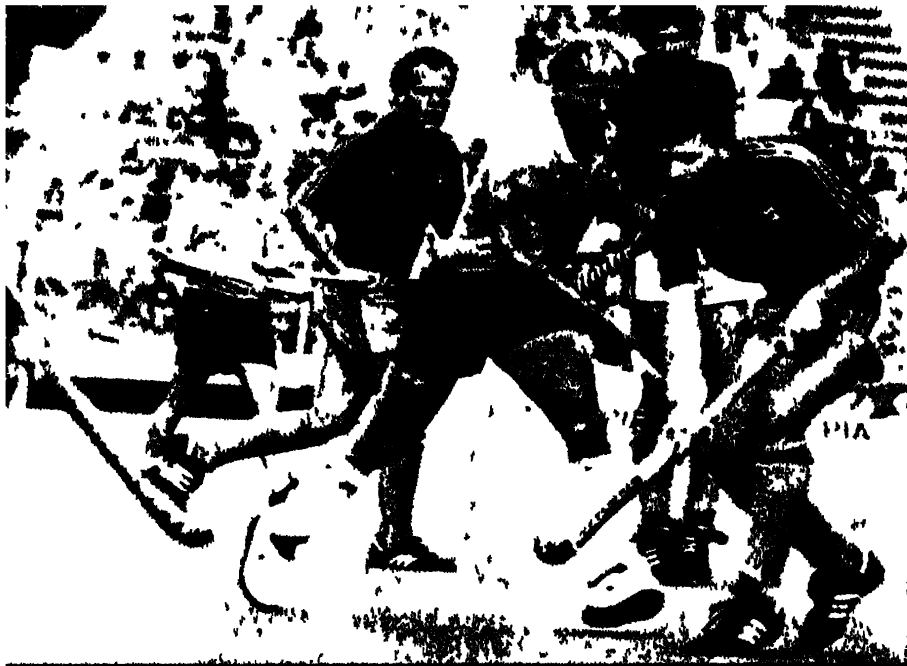
which proved one too many. Playing true to form, their confidence was on a high... Perhaps too high. The loss to Holland in the semis came as such a shock that many of the Germans wept openly after the game. With Stefan Blocher not exactly at his best, the onus fell on Carsten Fischer. And those who saw this giant perform were convinced that the German wall is still standing: in the form of this bespectacled 29-year old. Apart from his stonewalling defence, the Germans also relied on Fischer for their penalty corner conversions.

In a tournament dominated by indirect penalty corner conversions—pushes and scoops were more in fashion—Fischer was the odd man out, for he relies

Those who saw Carsten Fischer perform were convinced that the German wall is still standing

solely on his clean and hard hitting. Perhaps that was one of the reasons the Germans were not too successful. Against Holland in the semi finals, Fischer leveled the score twice through penalty corners but was also responsible for two of the goals that the Dutch scored. A penalty corner hit from Bovelandt was apparently stopped by Fischer with his body and a penalty stroke was awarded. If the FIH claims that none of the results were affected by bad umpiring, then they should review the slow motion television re-runs of this penalty corner hit. Fischer had stopped the ball cleanly with his stick. All his insistence fell on deaf ears. Frustrated and desperate he moved up front once too often and an Erick Parlievliet counter attack found Fischer out of position. The resultant penalty corner gave

Fischer: The Berlin Wall still stands in the form of this 29-year old German



Australian Colin Batch (with beard) is challenged by Dutchman Cees Van Delpaveen



Holland the deciding goal

The importance of the penalty corner was most evident in this match. It was as if the game was being played between Fischer and Boveland. In fact, both semifinals went without a single field goal being scored.

E NGLAND who finished fifth in the tournament could not have done any better. The Olympic champions had lost most of their team after Seoul and it was too much to expect their star striker Sean Kerly to shoulder the entire burden of the rebuilding process.

Unnoticed and without much fanfare, the Soviets managed to finish sixth and qualified for the next Champions Trophy to be held in Melbourne in November this year. Compensating what they

Fischer moves in to save the Germans while Blocher and Molandian look on

lack in flair with sheer doggedness, they conceded a point to India in the opening game, then went down to both Holland and Australia. But even after scoring a mere six goals (with 10 goals against), they eventually ended up a creditable sixth in the tournament.

France, who came fourth in the Inter-Continental trophy and thereby qualified for this tournament, should be proud of their seventh place. Theirs too is an example of percentage hockey, where the goals and the points matter more than the flair. Scoring a measly five goals (and six against them) in the league stage, they still finished third in group A, above USSR, Argentina

and India.

As shocking as it may sound, Argentina ought to be somewhat disappointed with their ninth place finish. At one stage vying with Holland for a place in the semifinals, two consecutive losses to USSR and France put paid to these pretensions.

Plenty has been said about India to bear repetition here, but much of India's performance—or lack of it—is to do with the number of goals they concede. In this tournament they let in 18 which together with Ireland's tally ranks as the highest in the tournament. With one win over Canada and that too thanks to the individual effort of Pargat Singh, India had the second lowest success percentage in the tournament (21/42).

Pargat's performance was so outstanding that he is now acclaimed as one of the best players in the world. Perhaps what India needs is three Pargat Singhs: one in the half line and the other in the frontline. Such is the all-round excellence of this man.

Still, one doubts whether India can find solace in the fact that they actually improved their ranking from the last World Cup tournament. If that is the case, it doesn't speak much for Indian hockey.

Canada and Ireland, who finished eleventh and twelfth respectively, were not really the pushovers they seemed to be. In their group B matches, it was only West Germany who beat both convincingly, otherwise the margin was always one goal.

It is said that there is not much of a difference between the top teams of the world, and this tournament proved that once again. The Lahore World Cup will be remembered for its out of the ordinary spectator turnout, smooth organisation and as one of the most successful and high profile hockey tournaments ever to be held.

Andy O'Brien, Lahore

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PANKAJ BHARMA

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Whose autobiography is titled 'Child of Change'?
 2. Who was the first woman athlete to run the 400 mts under 48 Secs?
 3. Who first suggested the idea of using the sun's rays to light the flame at Olympia and carry it to the Games by a relay system?
 4. What is a 'Cannon in billiards'?
- ?
5. Basin Reserve is the Test cricket ground in which city?
 6. Only one person has, to date, been the world champion in both motorcar and motor-cycle racing. Who?
 7. Who was Mike Tyson's last challenger to be defeated on points and not by a knockout?

8. Of which indoor game is Darryl Francis an

RATING TEST!

Above 15: Wish you were part of our quiz team!
Between 12 and 15: You are not too bad
Between 8 and 11: There is room for improvement
Below 8: Sportsworld reading recommended

ANSWERS

- 1 Garry Kasparov
- 2 Jarmila Kratochvílová of Czechoslovakia in 1983
- 3 Dr. Theodore Lewald
- 4 A stroke in which the cue ball hits both the red and the opponent's ball
- 5 Wellington
- 6 John Surtees
- 7 Tony Tucker, on 1 Aug. 1987
- 8 Scrabble
- 9 Mikhail Botvinnik
- 10 The Decathlon
- 11 Roberto Duran
- 12 Motor Cycle racing. It refers to a rider preventing a fellow rider from overtaking him
- 13 Vietnam
- 14 Swarup Kishen
- 15 Bunny Austen of U.K. in 1933
- 16 Kirti Azad
- 17 Seema Bhandari and Vimal Kumar
- 18 Cleveland Stroud U.S. basketball coach

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ IS CONTRIBUTED BY:-
Mohd. Ariff,
Electronics Engg.,
Old Hostel,
GCE,
Ramanagaram,
BANGALORE.
PIN—571 511.

acknowledged international expert?

9. Who is the only chess player to have regained the world championship title twice?
10. Which event is colloquially referred to as "Suicide in ten instalments"?
11. Which boxer is nicknamed "Fists of stone"?
12. In which sport might you "Shut the Door"?
13. Jō is the traditional martial art of which Asian country?
14. Who is the only umpire to be awarded the Padma Bhushan?
15. Who was the first player to wear shorts at Wimbledon?
16. Who was the only player dismissed for a duck in the 1983 World Cup final?
17. Who emerged champions of the inaugural SAARC badminton championship?
18. Along with Vijay Amritraj, another sportsperson received the Fair Play Trophy at the UNESCO HQ. Who?



BRITTANIA RULES!

Patrick Eagar
follows England's
surprise team
through the
West Indies

The captain (Gooch) and his
deputy (Lamb) are not quite
discussing South Africa. Gooch's
cheeks seem to provide the
camouflage against the
Caribbean sun. Not someone who
appreciates the virtues of the
good ol' tan, for sure.

Just when you thought the glass
was full...Robin Bailey gives his
friend David Capel a mouthful,
sorry jugful.

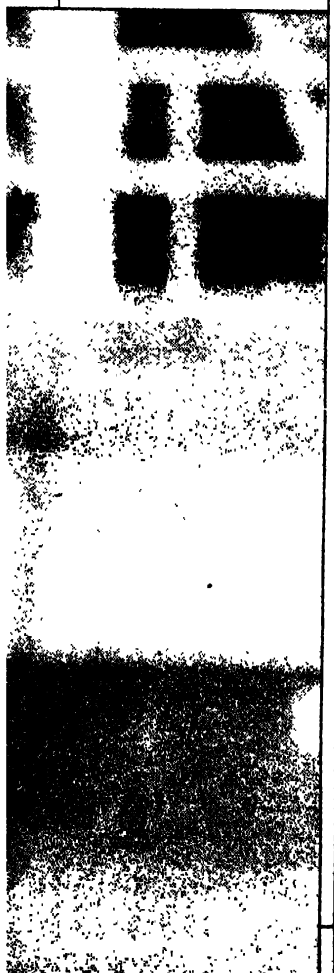
Something wrong here? No, m
s only England bowler Ch
is giving his idea of the
verdict against Gordon Green
the Trinidad one-day
international

Richie Richardson drives. The
MRF cap is yet to be replaced by
the crimson West Indies cap.
England wicketkeepers, however,
are more outwardly loyal

The assembled cricket VIPs leave after declaring the Jeffrey Stollmeyer Stand open in Trinidad. Clyde Walcott, bespectacled, stands third from right. Stollmeyer died last year after a shooting accident.



Stars in stripes. Greenidge (bat striped, pads striped) misses a Small delivery in the Trinidad International. Don't bowlers at last smile these days on hitting Greenidge's wickets?



Spoke too soon! Small makes amends, tries to do an Edwin Moses to fittingly celebrate the return of Viv Richards. Target: off-end-middle stumps again

'I understand a South Africa'

Said Mike Gatting

MIKE GATTING is not at the best of times the most cheerful, effervescent sporting personality, but he looked positively crushed at the sombre press conference at the Wanderers club in Johannesburg, headquarters of the South African Cricket Union (SACU).

He insisted he had no regrets about coming to South Africa: he had not come primarily for the money, but "out of disillusionment with our own

GATTING (in picture) seems to be a genuinely non-political man. When asked if the release of Nelson Mandela had excited him, he would only reply: 'I watched a bit of his press conference on television.'

cricket back home".

The man who once infamously admitted that he "didn't know very much about apartheid" said, "I have seen a lot of South Africa. I understand a lot more about South Africa now." He added somewhat ruefully: "South Africa is a very complex situation. Unless you are here, you cannot know how complex it is."

Nevertheless, there was no rebuke of SACU for its failure to inform him of what he could have expected, as Gatting added he would come back again next year

PATRICK EAGAR



lot more about

The rebel cricket tour to South Africa has been stopped but it was doomed from the start

to fulfil the second phase of his contract if his employers deemed it wise

Gatting seems to be a genuinely non-political man. When asked if the release of Nelson Mandela had excited him, he would only reply "I watched a bit of his press conference on television."

A shrewder, less honest person might have sought to use the release as a justification for the tourists' presence in South Africa. He was no match for the calculating, ambitious activists within the anti-tour National Sports Congress who have staked their political careers on turning the English players' time in South Africa into a nightmare.

By the time the team landed in Johannesburg, too late to see the police baton charge hundreds of demonstrators at the airport, many people had lost their appetite for the unofficial series.

Private-sector sponsors could not be induced to put their company logos on the players' shirts, fearful of consumer boycotts and retaliation by the radical internal anti-apartheid organisations.

But the most bewildering thing about the tour was how the crowds stayed away, partly out of sheer fear of the demonstrators outside the grounds. But there was another reason. Many loyal cricket followers believed the tour was ill-timed at a moment of great political change in South Africa. Reports that the players were earning a minimum after tax of £100,000 each (a fortune in deflated South African rands) for a few weeks' work left a nasty taste in the mouth.

On the Saturday of the first unofficial "test" in Johannesburg

the Wanderers stadium was barely a third full, a bewildering statistic in a country of sports fanatics deprived for years of international competition. Crowds at the other games have been embarrassingly small.

From the moment the players set foot inside South Africa they were subjected to almost intolerable pressure, from the demonstrators outside the grounds and from the tabloid press pack which followed the tourists around the country. Mike Gatting appeared

From the moment the players set foot in South Africa they were subjected to almost intolerable pressure from the demonstrators outside the grounds, and from the tabloid pack which follows the tourists around the country

genuinely shocked when he and his team were branded by protestors as defenders of apartheid. The impression he gave was more of a bewildered and naive man who had failed to understand that while ideally sport and politics should not mix in South Africa, sport is politics. It was a naivete that has sustained previous rebel tours in cricket and other sports.

This time however the political climate changed dramatically between the announcement of the



Protestors against the South African tour by Mike Gatting and his rebel team

tour last April and the start of play last month. When it was arranged, P W Botha was still in power, with reform proceeding at snail's pace when the team arrived reforming F W De Klerk was at the helm granting greater

freedom for protests and, above all, the release of Nelson Mandela. The tour provided a focus for unrest at a time when what Pretoria wanted most of all was calm.

Unsurprisingly, the players' performances suffered under the pressure. The England 11 narrowly scraped to a draw against a South African universities 11. The first Test ended in an ignominious seven-wicket defeat by the Springboks within only three of the five scheduled days. The curtailed Test match, and the generally poor standard of cricket compounded SACU's financial difficulties.

But it was ultimately political events which swept the tour away. Mr Ali Bacher, the Managing Director of the South African Cricket Union (SACU), sought to salvage something from the wreckage by claiming the decision to abort the tour represented a victory for negotiation between his organisation and the National Sports Congress which is closely associated with the African National Congress. He implied this was a substantial breakthrough, although in fact SACU and the NSC have held negotiations in the past.

Bacher's liberal credentials are impeccable. A former doctor who took a moral decision to work exclusively in black hospitals, his espousal of the cause of multi-racial sport is fervent. Yet, in the most telling indication of the tour's counter-productive nature, he has seen SACU's township programme, his branch, disintegrate under the weight of political pressure.

That programme, involving 60,000 schoolchildren and 1,200 black coaches, is likely to be reshaped under the auspices of the National Sports Congress. Led by Krish Naidoo, a Johannesburg-based human rights lawyer with links to the Mandela family, the NSC will emerge as a key power broker if the pace of political change is maintained.

Anti-apartheid activists talk



privately of South Africa being readmitted to international sport within five years if the NSC—and by implication the ANC—signal that rehabilitation is convenient.


The international cricket community would certainly welcome the return of South Africa. A C Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, said he "would love to have them back" in the International Cricket Conference.

However, he added, with a

Mike Proctor helps out at a multi-racial cricket clinic

certain understatement that the tour had done nothing to help the process. It is clear that by taking advantage of the plight of English cricket to recruit the ill-fated tourists, Bacher alienated former friends. In the months and years to come he, and the men he signed secretly, will need all the friends they can get.

Michael Calvin and Stephen Robinson



You don't need a better
example of the ideological
transition of a
former-Communist migrant
into the capitalist
razzamatazz. Amusingly,
Miss Liberty's famous
entreaty reads: 'Bring me
your tired, your poor, your
huddled masses yearning to
be free, the wretched refuse
of your teeming shore...'

10!

THE AMERICANISATION
OF THE SELF-EXILED
ROMANIAN
NADIA COMANICI

101

Landing onto the right side of the law. And yes, if you looked out at the Miss Comanche of the Montreal Olympics, don't look at the lady from the waist downwards. "After each course (of food)," related an interviewer, "she goes to the bathroom. She comes back, her eyes watery, picks her teeth and eats more..." The inference is that Nadia forcibly vomits before gorging ahead on whatever

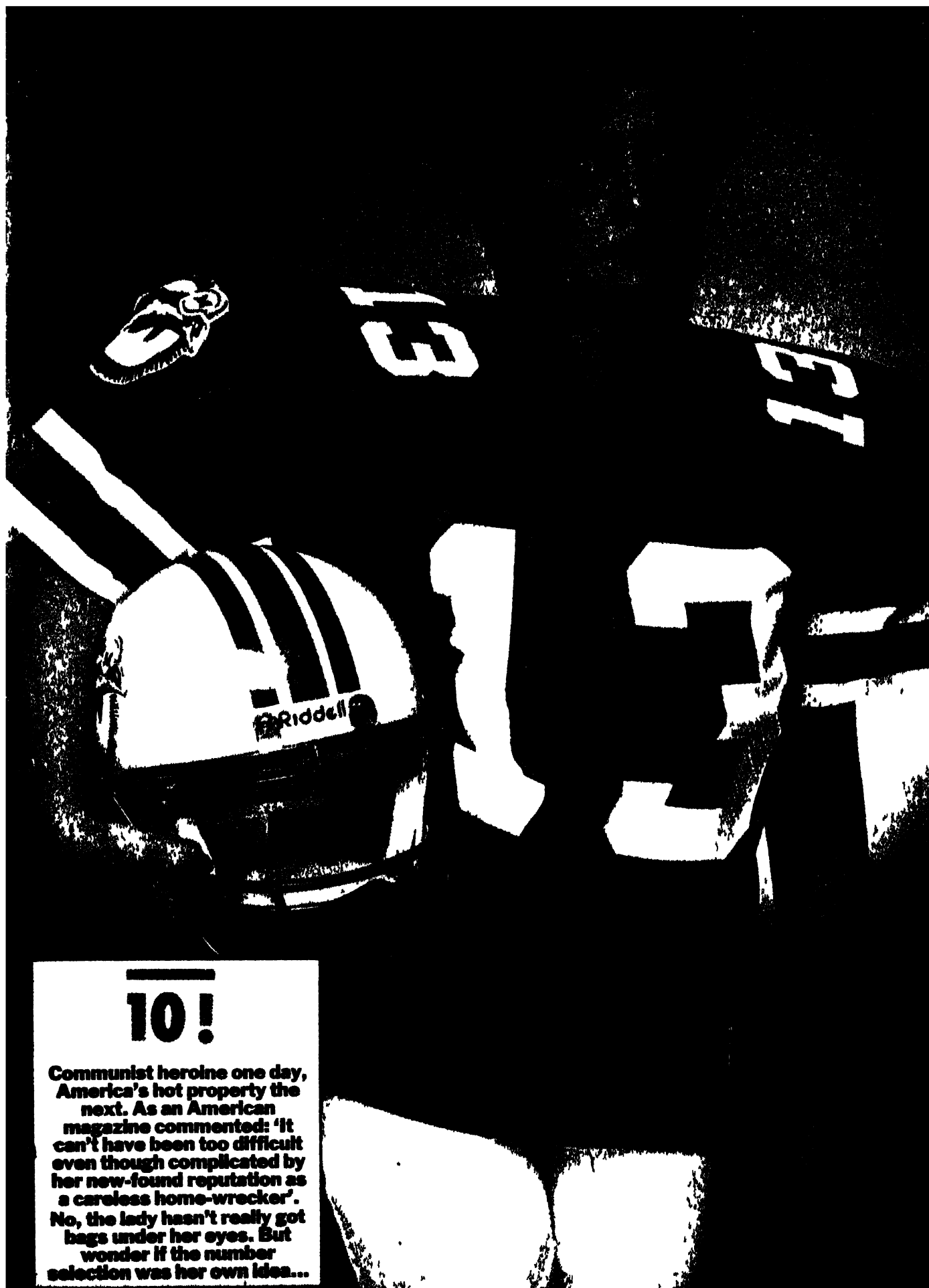






10!

A hair-do like Dolly Parton
and much else in common!)
has a swish of the skirt like
the late-and-lamented Miss
Monroe. Comeneci's
mother, interviewed by *Life*
in Bucharest, said: 'She is
difficult and sentimental. She
must always be told that she
is beautiful and good.'



10!

Communist heroine one day,
America's hot property the
next. As an American
magazine commented: 'It
can't have been too difficult
even though complicated by
her new-found reputation as
a careless home-wrecker'.
No, the lady hasn't really got
bags under her eyes. But
wonder if the number
selection was her own idea...

10!

**A picture Elena Ceausescu
might have been proud of. Or
maybe even Ivana Trump.**







10!

**First stop: America. Next
stop: Who knows?**

ALL TRANSPARENCIES ASIA FEATURES

PREVIEW

NATIONAL EVENTS:

Cricket : Ranji Trophy final from March 23 to 28. 15th All India Gauri Dutt Mandelia prize money tournament at the Hindalco grounds, Renukoot from March 6 onwards.

Basketball : 12th Federation Cup tournament at Tripyar, Kottayam, Kerala for men and women from March 4—11. Ten men's and five women's teams to participate.

Cross Country : National cross-country at Pune on March 6.

Chess : National 'A' and National Rapid championships at Calicut, from March 1—28.

Golf : Indian Open at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club, from March 8—11. Prize money worth \$ 1,20,000.

Meerut Open at Meerut Golf Club. Prize money

worth Rs. 40,000.

DCM Open at Delhi Golf Club. Prize money worth Rs. 60,000.

Tennis : East Zone Davis Cup tie, India vs Japan at Chandigarh from March 31 to April 2.

Weightlifting : 42nd Senior National championships at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu from March 25—30. There are ten categories for men and nine for women.

Wrestling : 37th Senior national championships at Jamshedpur, from March 16—19.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS :

Athletics : Asia Cup marathon at Seoul, on March 18.

World Cross-Country championships at Aix-les-

Bains, France on March 24.

Kodak Classic, Great Britain vs USA vs USSR on March 18.

Basketball : 13th Asian Women's championships at Singapore, from March 9—18. India to participate.

European Cup winners' Cup final at Florence on March 13.

European Korac Cup final 1st leg on March 22 and 2nd leg on March 29.

Badminton : All England Open at Wembley, from March 14 to 17. Dutch Jr. international tournament at Harlem, Holland from March 9—11.

Cricket : England's tour of West Indies March 7 vs West Indies, 4th One-day International

at Georgetown, Guyana. March 10—15 : vs West Indies, 2nd Test at Georgetown, Guyana.

March 17—20 : vs President's XI at Trinidad.

March 23—28 : vs West Indies, 3rd Test at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

March 30—April 1 : vs Barbados at Bridgetown, Barbados.

Golf : US tournament players' championship at Ponte Vedra, Florida from March 15—18.

Honda Classic at Coral Springs, Florida from March 8—11. Open de Balergas, at Mallorca, from March 8—11.

Motor Racing : US Grand Prix at Phoenix, on March 11. Brazilian Grand Prix at Sao Paulo on March 25.

Karate : World Championships at Sunderland on March 16 and 17.

Motor Cycling : Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka on March 25.

Tennis : Newsweek Champions Cup, at Indian Wells from March 5—11.

Indoor Satellite Circuit Masters, at Telford, England, from March 12—16.

Lipton Players championships at Key Biscayne, from March 19—25. World Group, Davis Cup quarter finals, Australia vs New Zealand, Italy vs Australia, USA vs Czechoslovakia and West Germany vs Argentina.

Football : European Cup Champions' Cup, Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup quarter finals 1st legs on March 7 and 2nd legs on March 21. European Cup finals, A.C Milan vs Mechlin, PSV Eindhoven vs Bayern Munich, Benfica vs Dniepre USSR, Marseilles vs Sredets, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Compiled by Novy Kapadia



SPEED KING

KARIVARDHAN

The 34-year-old from Coimbatore is blazing a trail through the racing circuits of India, both as a racer, as well as a designer of Formula Maruti cars...

THE slick black low slung Formula Monoposto comes howling around the bend crabbing to the edge of the track it blasts past a group of people standing next to a Gypsy armed with stop watches and clip boards S Karivardhan or Kari as he is better known is perfecting his art Working his way down the gears he pulls to a stop and limbs out to saunter over

Starting his career in circuit racing in 1974 Karivardhan recalls those earlier years In Coimbatore someone or the other in the family always had a fascination for cars therefore the

attraction was natural Right from the start I decided to concentrate on cars instead of bikes because in the 70s the motorcycles were not as good as they are now In fact in those earlier years it was easier to convince someone in the family to loan me their imported car for racing

I drove a Modified Fiat in my first race at Sholavaram and have

subsequently driven Fiats Indian Formula cars imported saloons and a Formula Atlantic he adds

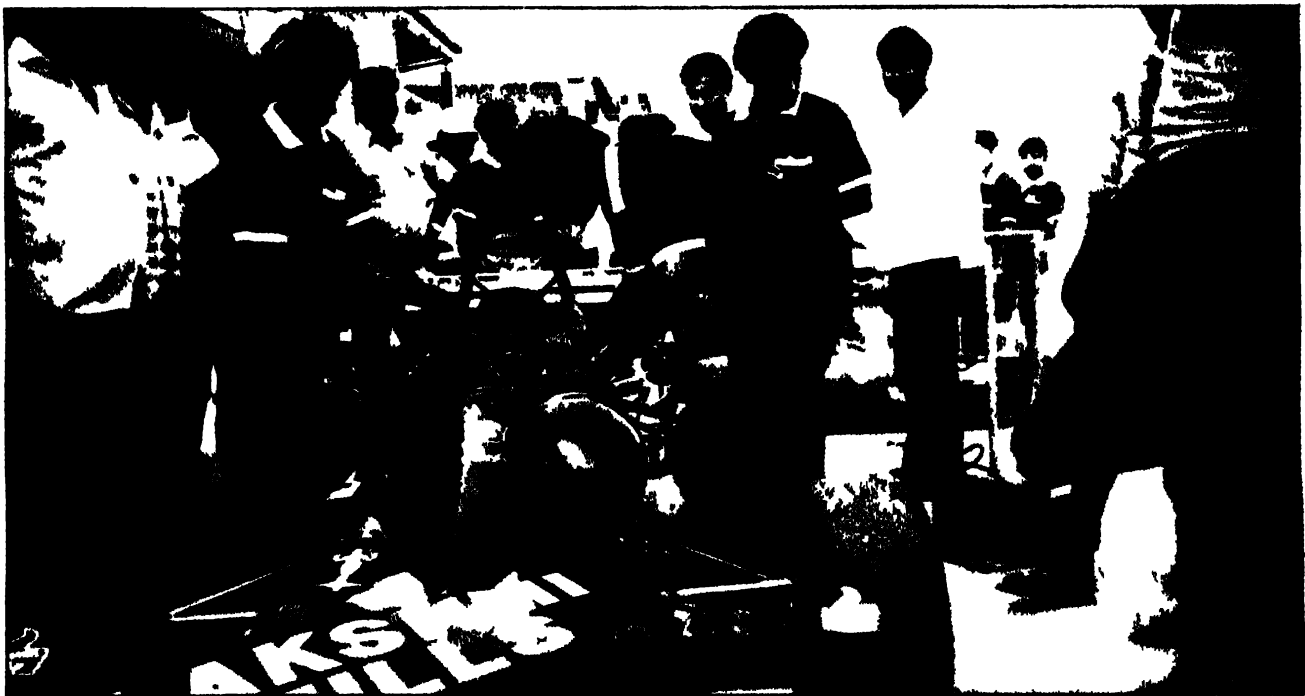
The 34 year old Managing Director of one of the Lakshmi group of companies is one notch above the ordinary circuit racer who just belts up and drives a car which has been prepared by someone else With a masters degree in

mechanical engineering Kari designs and makes his own cars

He says For the sheer pleasure of driving a powerful car nothing comes close to the Formula Atlantic With a 225 horsepower engine it is one of the fastest cars in circuit racing Unfortunately this year they were discontinued for want of sufficient entries

Going back to the car he was driving earlier on he explains I copied the design of the car

Karivardhan seated inside his Formula Monoposto Special



He is one notch above the ordinary circuit racer who just belts up and drives a car which has been prepared by someone else. With a masters degree in mechanical engineering, Kari designs and makes his own cars...

Based on the English Reynard chassis, I fitted a push rod 1600cc Ford engine on it. This car is the equivalent of the Formula Renault and the Formula Ford 2000 on the world circuit today."

And its not just on mechanical know-how that he outscores the rest. His driving is superior too. Although a lot of Indian riders and drivers have complained about the sharp bends and turns on the new track at Sriperambadur, Karivardhan states, "I have no complaints about this track. My Monoposto is a slow car, therefore this circuit has not posed any problems for me. The Monaco race track is much tighter and you still have the Formula One's racing there without any problems. So why complain...one has to adapt if one wants to compete."

"Take for example the number of times a driver changes his gears at the 'T' shaped Sholavaram track and compare that with the number of times he does it at the



new track. In Sholavaram I changed gears 28 times in one lap and only 11 at Sriperambadur." To illustrate his point better he draws an outline of the new track with the gear changes. Warming up to his favourite topic he continues, "This new track is definitely a good beginning. The Madras Motor Sports Clubs have plans for four events per year. They are also trying to get into the Asia-Pacific circuit. If that comes about, then we will be able to see

Formula 3 in India. But to counter this foreign challenge we will have to import the same cars for the Indians."

Always a consistent performer at the races, Karivardhan wasn't too happy about being shunted to second place this year by the Belgian rallyist, Flory Roothaert. Not pleased with this demotion he said, "Flory had a powerful Renault

Godinhi engine in his car. The difference between our engines were about 30 horsepower, therefore it

Vijayshree, Karivardhan's wife, ready to take the Formula Maruti car for a practice lap

was difficult to beat him. If this 1600 cc push rod class remains next year, I will definitely come back with a new chassis and a new engine. But then, I believe that you lose a few and win a few, and put everything down to experience."

Circuit racing, especially of the Formula variety, is in its infancy in India and Karivardhan's role viewed under these circumstances is very important. Having raced all these years in modified/stock cars, the

It took a man like Karivardhan to realise the potential of the fast Maruti and convert it to its Formula version...



**A MATCHLESS BLEND OF
TASTE & FLAVOUR FOR YOU**

PRABHAT ZARDA PRODUCTS

introduction of the Formula Maruti Class cars has added excitement and entertainment to the sport. It took a man like Karivardhan to realise the potential of the fast Maruti and convert it to its Formula version.

Had it been anybody else he would have dominated all conversation he got into about his conversion of Marutis into racing cars but not so with Kari. In a very unassuming manner he says, "We began designing this car in March '88 and completed 11 cars that year. Then over the last two years we made 15 more. The ones made by me at Coimbatore have done well on this track. These are the first indigenous cars in India. Designing it has been a satisfying experience."

Motorsport in India has been labelled a 'rich man's sport' by most people. Kari disagrees.

As far as participants are concerned, yes, motorsport can be expensive. But sportsmen playing other forms of sport at the state level at least also spend a lot of money on equipment. How can you say it is a rich man's sport? If you can't afford a car you can always start off on motorcycles. The initial cost of either the car or the motorcycle is high but after that, if one is careful, the cost comes down."

Motorsport can often get very technical and hence the average follower of the sport is ignorant of the finer points, but this doesn't seem to turn Karivardhan off. As he



Karivardhan seated in his Maruti Gypsy taking down timings. Son Arjun looks on.

explains, "Motorsport basically has always been a part of the manufacturer's research and development efforts. Lessons learnt on the track are often incorporated in their commercial vehicles to improve performance. Constant innovation is being made in this sport and the common man may not understand, but I try and explain things

to people who are curious and want to know about these new developments."

Managing the business takes up a lot of his time, yet he tries to keep in touch with the sport which has made his name famous all over the country. "Time constraints and deadlines before racing season serve as sufficient motivation,"

he says.

If motorsport in India is going to develop into a big time sport we need more people to come forward to help push it forward. Dedicated people like Karivardhan have set a trend and now it is left to the others to follow.

Reported by Rahul Chandawarkar, written by Avik Lee

PHOTOGRAPHS RAHUL CHANDAWARKAR

"Time constraints and deadlines before racing season serve as sufficient motivation," says Karivardhan

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 14-3: ARTIFICIAL DEVICES AND UNUSUAL EQUIPMENT:
EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THE RULES, DURING A STIPULATED ROUND
THE PLAYER SHALL NOT USE ANY ARTIFICIAL DEVICE OR UNUSUAL
EQUIPMENT....WHICH MIGHT ASSIST HIM IN GRIPPING THE CLUB,
IN MAKING A STROKE OR IN HIS PLAY



RULE 14-1: BALL TO BE FAIRLY STRUCK AT.
THE BALL SHALL BE FAIRLY STRUCK AT WITH THE HEAD
OF THE CLUB AND MUST NOT BE PUSHED SLAPED
OR SPOONED



LEASOR

SECTION I. ETIQUETTE

NO ONE SHOULD MOVE TALK OR STAND CLOSE TO OR
DIRECTLY BEHIND THE BALL OR THE HOLE WHEN A PLAYER
IS ADDRESSING THE BALL OR MAKING A STROKE



LEASOR

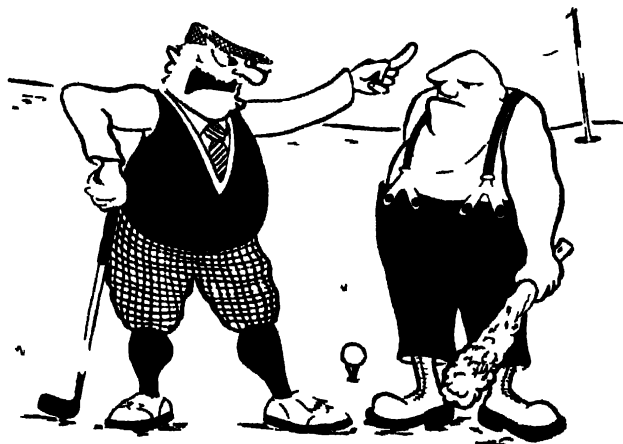
SECTION II: DEFINITIONS. ADDRESSING THE BALL
A PLAYER HAS "ADDRESSED THE BALL" WHEN HE HAS
TAKEN HIS STANCE AND HAS ALSO GROUND HIS CLUB



LEASOR

RULE 4-1 FORM AND MAKE OF CLUBS

A CLUB IS AN IMPLEMENT DESIGNED TO BE USED FOR
STRIKING THE BALL



LEASOR

ARMWRESTLING is a sport which dates back nearly 5,000 years.

Since its modern revival in the United States in 1967, arm wrestling has spread as an organised sport throughout the world. This can be attributed to the fact that the sport is both for young and old, men and women and does not require hard work or expensive training equipment. No large space for competition either. Not surprisingly, its popularity continues to grow.

Arm-wrestling as a sport needs no formal introduction. However, as an organised sport it does have its own set of rules and regulations.

An arm-wrestling championship may have participants divided into two categories—seated and standing. There can be only two competitors per nation in each weight class. The world Arm Wrestling Federation, WAWF, may permit more representation or less, if it wishes. The team points for each participant finishing in the first, second and third positions is as follows—first, 10 points; second, seven points; and third, four points. As far as fouls are concerned, the basics in this category are: each competitor is allowed one foul per match, unless he is in a losing position from which he can be disqualified. Contestants not locking arms properly are given two warnings (one foul) and if still not disciplined then he could be disqualified. Elbows slipping off the elbow pad or lifting off the pad can attract disqualification.

Participants in a championship are divided according to their age groups. The classification in this category is: 12 years and under are Sub-juniors; 18 years and under became Juniors; competitors older are Seniors;

Giants in the 100kg category battle it out

OVER T

Arm-wrestling is not just another and covering large ground



THE TOP

sport. It is taking giant strides in its quest for recognition.



those above 50 are Masters.

The actual rules governing an arm-wrestling bout normally see the event taking place in a double elimination round. There is no time-limit during an actual bout. All bouts except the finals consist of one round, with the finals consisting of three rounds. There is no break in the contest during or between bouts. The bout begins with the referee starting the match by saying 'Ready... go'. The match finishes with the referee saying 'Stop' and raising the winner's hand. The bout in itself has three referees. The head-referee starts and finishes the match, while the side-referees watch for hip, leg and foot fouls.

As a sport, organised arm-wrestling got its start in Scranton, Pennsylvania in the USA. The brain behind this was Bob O'Leary who is recognised as the father of International Arm-Wrestling. Thereafter, the World Arm-Wrestling Federation (WAWF) was born. India was quick to join this association. A constitutional format was soon established and WAWF World Championships have been held in continents throughout the world.

The sister concern of the World Arm-Wrestling Federation is the Indian Arm-Wrestling Federation (president: L. Ranabir Singh).

With the International Olympic Committee (IOC) listing arm-wrestling as official and inviting applicants for membership into the Olympic fraternity, the sport has matured into a major world discipline. That the movement is successful is apparent from the fact that Yugoslavia, a member of the 'Iron Curtain' competed for the first time in 1988 with one participant. In 1989, they returned with a team of 16.

The sport is known as *Panja* in India and is soon coming to grips (as *panja* means) in the quest for finding its rightful place in the world of sport.

Barj Baran Das,
Chairman WAWF.

EAST ZONE SANTOSH TROPHY

Bengal And Bihar Sail Home

DEFENDING champions Bengal (when the Guwahati Nationals

had no age restrictions) emerged the Under-23 East Zone winners for the forthcoming 46th Santosh Trophy to be staged at Margao's Nehru Stadium, Goa. Bengal claimed the top slot after having slammed in two goals against Bihar in the finals played at Agartala's Umakanto Academy ground. But the defeat didn't deprive Bihar of a ticket to Goa, since they were placed second among the eight participating States, except Meghalaya.

Meghalaya couldn't—or didn't—make the trip to the Tripura capital. The sole excuse was that a team couldn't be formed. Something difficult to believe! Was it due to apprehension that Meghalaya skipped the zonal meet?

Last November when they hosted the Junior Nationals for the B.C. Roy Trophy at Shillong,

Meghalaya finished joint-winners with Railways after the finals was abandoned in the latter half of the match due to mob violence which was targetted largely at the players from Bengal. And all this occurred in front of the organisers and important dignitaries. Was Meghalaya afraid of facing the music?

The working committee of the All India Football Federation last May unanimously decided to make the Nationals a Under-23 affair to be played on a zonal basis and the top two teams of each zone would qualify for the challenge round.

There is news from two other zones too. Punjab and Railways qualified from the North, while last two years' runners-up Kerala and Karnataka earned a berth each from South. The West Zone contenders will be decided at Jabalpur.

For Bengal, without their regular stars who

performed at Guwahati, it was a challenge they had to accept. And Swarup Das, who made his debut, steered the team to a wonderful triumph...and a morale victory for coach Gautam Sarkar.

The 23 time champions began their campaign on an unimpressive note against a weak Mizoram 2-1. Although Bengal won, they found the going tough initially...and lacked combination. But captain Swarup Das made a bad start: his miskick allowed Limo to score from close. That was the only piece of good work Mizoram had done.

Bengal improved their scoresheet when they won comprehensively against a much-fancied Manipur. Ranjit Saha, Sudip Chakraborty and Subroto Roy netted one each. Coach Gautam Sarkar made one strategic change in this match which worked well: striker Debashis Sarkar was played as central midfielder who performed superbly.

Bihar's campaign in group A saw them pumping 12 goals and concede one. They beat

Coach Gautam Sarkar attending to Sudip Chakraborty



PHOTOGRAPHS BY PRITI RANJAN KARMAKAR

Tripura 2-0 Nagaland 3-0, Sikkim 7-1 and drew goalless with Assam. One thought Assam would display some fireworks because of their laudable performance at Guwahati last year. But, surprisingly underdogs Nagaland lobbed them 3-0 to win the group's second spot.

The semifinal line up was drawn. Bengal met Nagaland and Bihar faced Manipur. Bengal was too formidable for the Nagas. Ranjit Saha found the net twice and Subroto Roy once. But alas, some superb ballplay by Atik forced Bengal to concede a goal. Stung by the reverses, Bengal looked menacingly dominating. But the end result was 4-1.

The result of the other semis was predictable as Bihar was superior to Manipur. They won by a brace, but the Manipuris had themselves to blame for the number of chances they squandered.

Bengal met Bihar in the final. Bengal had a score to settle and the Agartala crowd too knew it. The Quilon episode had to be avenged. Memories were still fresh, the bruises still raw. How Bihar conceded six goals to Karnataka to deprive Bengal of a semifinal berth. Vengeance was writ large on the Bengal boys. And right from the word go, Bengal looked dominating, but they failed to open their account because a youngster from Hazaribagh, Nandeswar Sahni, stood in their way confidently. A superlative



performance that earned him the Man of the Match award.

On five occasions at least he thwarted a one-to-one situation. But how long could he endure the pressure because the defence and midfield were so disappointing. The Bihar keeper succumbed to the pressure after the breather. A Sudip Chakraborty back pass saw Subroto Roy find the net from a

goalmouth scramble. Firoze increased the lead five minutes from the long whistle.

How good was Bengal? Ilyas Pasha and Rahamatullah were stalwarts in the deep defence. Stopper Swarup Das was a suspect in the earlier ties, but

Bengal skipper Swarup Das receiving a prize from Tripura Chief Minister Sudhir Ranjan Mazumdar



Ranjit Saha is injured against Manipur

mustered a lot of confidence for the special occasion.

However, the midfield was a constant source of trouble as Arup Manna and Shankar Sadhu seemed out of gear. But it was Debashis Sarkar who made up for his colleagues. Subroto Roy was outstanding in the Bengal strike force. His speed and thrust were lethal. Winger Chakraborty delighted the crowd with his ballplay, while Ranjit Saha was the darling for his scoring ability.

Coach Gautam Sarkar had this to say after the final: "There is no room for complacency. We have to improve our performance if we are to retain the trophy. Goa is not going to be smooth-sailing. We have to always keep in mind that Goa and Kerala are our main opponents. However, after playing four matches here, we are in a position to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the team. And that is going to help us a lot."

Manas Chakraborty, Agartala

JOHN McENROE

A DESPERATE CLUTCH AT HOPE

If you ask Brad Gilbert about the events of January 1986

he will probably be unable to respond. After all, all he had done was beat John McEnroe at the Masters. Gilbert, like the rest of us, was to have absolutely no inkling of how that one match would change the entire face of

world tennis and disrupt the entire career of that man, McEnroe.

Incensed by his dismal form and the loss, McEnroe had stormed into the cold New York winter's night with the seemingly unkind words, "You can't lose to the Brad Gilberts of this world." For him that was an unacceptable level to fall to.

What followed has been precisely documented and extremely well chronicled—in a



BALDING AND 31, STILL TROUBLED BY FINES AND POOR FORM, McENROE CONTINUES BECAUSE HE BELIEVES 'SOMETHING GOOD WILL HAPPEN'. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF IT IS SELF INFLICTED IT IS TRAGIC THAT THE GREATEST TENNIS GENIUS OF OUR TIMES IS NOW FORCED TO HOPE TO WIN

nutshell, McEnroe opted for a self imposed exile and Lendl became *numero uno* in every sense.

Had McEnroe retired completely then perhaps he would have been happier. For till last week, fresh evidence was being presented that his three and a half year comeback since 1986 has been a failure—a comeback that coughs, splutters, purrs to life only to quickly break down.

And McEnroe became an old embittered lion unable to fathom

that this was no longer his territory.

The troubles with behaviour and fines and poor form continue, and it is sad, sometimes almost embarrassing, to watch. As much as it must be sad and embarrassing for him.

Take last fortnight as a case in point. First the fines. After his

default at the Australian Open McEnroe appealed against the \$6,500 fine levied at him. The appeal, not surprisingly, was turned down.

\$6,500 for McEnroe is financially a joke, but it also poses the serious threat of disqualification. The Grand Slam tournament rules now unequivocally state that, if a player accumulates \$7,500 in fines in the space of 12 months (calendar year) at Grand Slam tournaments he would be barred from playing in the next Grand Slam tournament. Which means, should McEnroe receive a \$1000 fine at the French Open he would be disqualified for Wimbledon. Any other player would, in such a situation, sensibly keep his mouth sealed, his racket firmly in grasp. Yet considering McEnroe's often personal incomprehension over his loss of control, he may even skip the French as a safety measure.

If it weren't for the damage he causes himself more than anything else, it would be quite an

TENNIS NOTES:

* Young American hopeful Pete Sampras made a significant breakthrough, winning his first career title when he beat Andres Gomez 76 75 62 to win the \$1 million US Pro Indoor at Philadelphia.

* Czechoslovak Jan Kodeš, winner of the French Open (1970/71) and Wimbledon (1973), was inducted into tennis' Hall of Fame.

* The All India Tennis Association recent ranking list based on performances between September 1988 and December 1989 has Enrico Piperno as their No. 1. The rest of the Top 10 are as follows: 2. S. Narendranath 3. Zeeshan Ali 4. K.G. Ramesh 5. Mark Ferreira 6. Nandan Bal 7. Asif Ismail 8. Pawan Kapoor 9. Surendra Kumar 10. Benush Venugopal.

amusing situation. That a man must forfeit a tournament voluntarily only to play in another because he cannot be certain if he can control his temper. Outrageous really.

Further problems for McEnroe arose last fortnight with a needless loss to the quiet Texan Richey Reneberg. It was a further reminder of the continued fluctuations in his game....fluctuations that indicate that he is not capable of harnessing himself physically and mentally, to win seven matches in a row (a requirement for a Grand Slam tournament win). And we are talking Grand Slam wins because that is what McEnroe is talking: "I have to say to myself: what do you want—and I want to win a major championship. I'm not going to be a No. 1 or No. 2, but I'd like to win the US Open because that's where I'm from. Wimbledon and the US Open are my best chances". Perhaps McEnroe forgot to add 1990 while on the topic of his 'best chances'—for time too, that terrible cliché, that terrible reality, is running out.

So the frustration that nothing, absolutely nothing, is going right remains. And he admitted this when he said, "I think before I stop playing that something unbelievably good will happen. The unbelievably bad has already happened".

So McEnroe, once the genius, is now left with nearly nothing. Only hope.

SHOCK OF THE WEEK

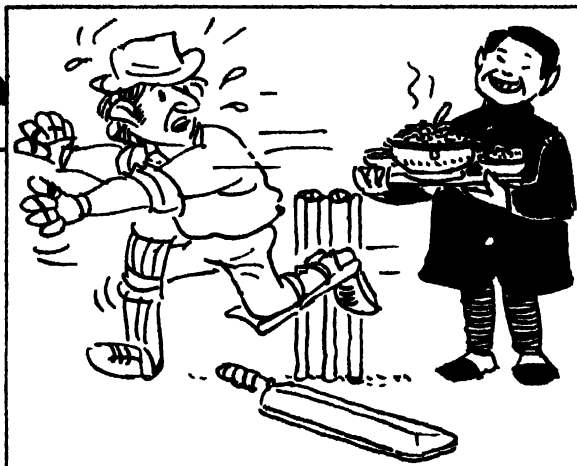
BORIS BECKER WHIPPED IVAN LENDL 6-2, 6-2 AT THE STUTTGART CLASSIC WHICH AMAZINGLY IS HIS FIFTH SUCCESSIVE VICTORY OVER THE WORLD NO. 1. BUT IF PEOPLE USE THIS DEFEAT AS AN INDICATOR OF LENDL'S GROWING INCONSISTENCY AND BECKER'S ASCENDANCY, THEY MUST ALSO REMEMBER THAT IVAN LENDL IN A GRAND SLAM TOURNAMENT IS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PROPOSITION



ALL IN THE GAME

IT'S not just the English cricket rebels who are having problems. Problems, in general, seem to have an affinity for English cricket. However, this does not exactly hold true for the Brits in the Windies (when reports last came in, they were having a ball!).

A meal in a Chinese restaurant was cited as the reason for the cancellation of the England cricket. A team's match in



ENGLISH CAN'T STOMACH

Cricketing problems

Nairobi as nine players went down with food poisoning. The casualty list,

looked after by the British High Commission's doctor, even included Keith

Fletcher. Captain Mark Nicholas was, however, unaffected and put things in their right perspective when he said. "The players have all been terribly sick with severe stomach pains. Some of them have had gastric problems since their arrival."

When things were okay, the cricketers were dispensing of their cricketing matters with a 'rumble'

FOUR New York Mets in exile, locked out of their training camp because of a baseball labour dispute, reported for an informal workout at a Little League field in Florida, only to find themselves locked out again.

The sign at the gate said, "Facility closed,

IS IT CRICKET?

Not for 4 mets

keep out."

"Locked out again," Bob Ojeda said. "We get no respect."

Ojeda and teammates Keith Miller, Terry Bross and Aje-

jandro Pena hopped the wire fence and started tossing the ball around, but a park supervisor drove up and told them to quit it.

There was nothing

personal in this look-out, the supervisor said. Just a case of cricketing warfare "I'm sorry to do it," he said. "But we've got to keep the field free. We've got chemicals on the grass to get rid of the crickets and we're trying to fertilise it."

The Mets woefully trudged away.

CONTROVERSIES and John McEnroe seem to go hand in hand.

For the first time since 1984, Mac has signed up to play in the pre-Wimbledon tennis tournament at the Queen's Club this year. To re-phrase it, the first time since he insulted the wife of the club chairman in 1984.

McEnroe, who has won the title four times, was barred from the club and

stripped of his honorary membership after

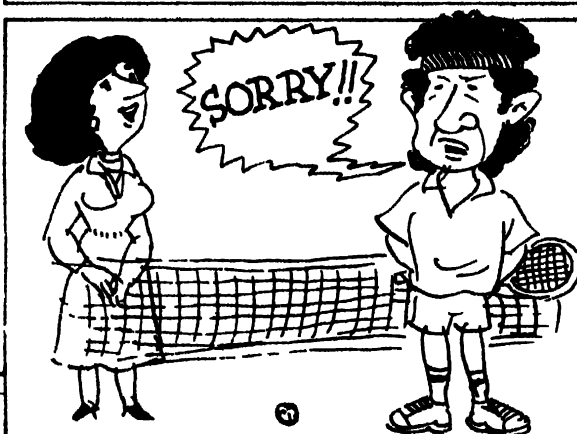
coursing at Sheila Boden, whose husband was club

chairman at the time, when Mrs Boden refused to give him practice time on a court she had booked for a mixed doubles match.

The current chairman of the club, Grant Meyrick, said Mac was being allowed to play after he apologised for his misdeemeanour. His honorary membership is, however, being withheld. Mac really doesn't give a damn!

MAC RETURNS...

With an apology



Congrats

MY congratulations to James 'Buster' Douglas for winning the world boxing title. By beating Tyson, he has proved that a man can reach the top if he is strong and determined.

He has also proved that no one is invincible, even Mike Tyson.

The interview with Muhammad Ali by Rahul Chandawarkar was very good.
FARHAT KHAN,
Calcutta.

Hadlee The Great

MY heartiest congratulations to Richard Hadlee for getting 400 wickets in Test cricket. And the way that he is going, he can reach 500 Test wickets. He plays his game with utter concentration and dedication, by feeling that 'every ball is a challenge irrespective of whom I am bowling to'. This has resulted in this extraordinary achievement.

All praise to him and I dearly wish that the next man to break the barrier should be Kapil Dev.
RAVI PRASAD,
Mangalore.

Thanks a million

THANKS a million for publishing such a superb article on Richard Hadlee. (*Sportsworld*, 14th Feb). I am one of those young cricketers who has really been inspired by the exploits of Richard Hadlee, especially the motivation list of this great bowler.

Thanks for this out of this world article.

KAUSHIK MAJUMDAR,
Calcutta.

No more Ali

THE 14th Feb issue of *Sportsworld* was very good except for the interview with Muhammad Ali. It wasn't that the interview was bad but we have

read too much about Muhammad Ali. You have carried articles on him quite a few times and thus it was quite irrelevant this time. Especially stories like him throwing the gold medal into the river.

SANJAY GEHLOT,
Lucknow.

Thanks

THANKS very much for the free poster of Steffi Graf with the Australian Open Trophy. Even the photo feature of the Australian Open was marvellous. The one drawback was that an interview with Steffi Graf should have been published also. Congratulations also to Leander Paes for his superb performance at the Open.
SUBRAT SAMAL,
Burla,
Orissa.

The Queen

MY congratulations to Steffi Graf for winning the Australian Open title. She is the queen of women's tennis. I wish her all the luck in the future. The free poster of Careca was very good.
ASHISH,
New Delhi.

Sportsworld

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I, Bijit Kumar Basu, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief

Bijit Kumar Basu

1 March, 1990

Publisher

Interesting

ROHIT BRIJNATH's report on the Australian Open was really interesting to read. Especially his report on McEnroe's default. It was almost like being there myself. Boris Becker's interview was extremely perceptive and interesting. But if Becker quits now, it will be a foolish act.
P. THANGA KUBERAN,
Tuticorin,
Tamil Nadu.

Boveland The King

THE World Cup hockey championships is over and it marks the rise of Boveland. Singlehandedly he has taken Holland to a superb win. I foresee him as another Dhyan Chand. Of course, along with his penalty corner conversion skills, if he develops a dribbling fluency, there will be no stopping him.
HITENDRA SHARMA,
Jalandhar.

Absorbing

THE cover story on Wasim Akram was very interesting and absorbing. (*Sportsworld*, 10 Jan). Akram has performed magnificently against Australia and there is no doubt that he has the makings of a great bowler in him.
M.N. BAIG,
Azamgarh.

ON behalf of scores of cricket enthusiasts, I would like to congratulate Richard Hadlee for becoming the first bowler to take 400 Test wickets. For the past one year, I have become a regular reader of *Sportsworld* because of its superb coverage of national and international events.
VARUN VOHRA,
Calcutta.

Corrigendum

The photo on Page 20 of the issue dated 28th Feb is of M.P. Singh and not of Pargat Singh as mentioned. The error is regretted.

PEOPLE



COURTESY: CANARD DRIVE

before the season's first race, FISA the sports governing body, changed their minds and issued him with a super-licence

Senna had earlier been replaced by Jonathan Palmer in the Honda Marlboro team Jean Marie Balestre, president of FISA also lifted the six-months suspended driving ban hanging on Senna Attaboy Senna'

SENNA ROARS BACK

AYRTON Senna, it seems, is as stubborn as nails The Brazilian ace almost sacrificed his career on a matter of principle but Ayrton Senna races on despite another Formula One fiasco

The 'Tarmac Sootcher' was banned when he refused to retract a statement that last year's championship was manipulated in favour of Alain Prost Then just 90 minutes

DAVIS' 'SNOOKER' EGO

Steve Davis, one of snooker's living legends is looking terribly mortal He is going through problems, problems of regaining lost form, as is so clearly apparent with his string of successive defeats

The world champion's iron clad resistance seems to have softened and he has become increasingly open to the sucker punch His 6-2 mauling at the hands of John Parrott in the Benson and Hedges Masters was an example What's more Davis has become a bad loser, tantrums et al

Like Parrott summed it up, "It was a real dent to Davis's snooker ego, he is going to have to be just another Joe Soap now and go back to the drawing board"

BROAD RANGING PROBLEMS

CHRIS Broad's problems have already begun, even before the opener has come back from South Africa

Leicestershire have decided not to sign Broad as a replacement for David Gower, who has left, because of fears of a public backlash Mike Turner, chief executive of Leicestershire confirmed this decision of not approaching Broad and he also had the backing of Bobby Simpson, Leicestershire's new team manager



THE ENGLISH KNIGHTS

THE English team have gone to do battle, just like in the days of old. The 'varlets' in this case seem to be the giants from the Caribbeans. Men of awesome strength, speed and power. These are the only weapons in their armoury. The English on the other hand are not taking their battlegear as lightly as the West Indians.

The warrior in the picture is Allan Lamb, the English vice-captain. He too presents an awesome picture, one that you have probably never seen before. Lamb in full battledress. And he says "At my age, I don't fancy having my good looks re-arranged, hence the battlegear."

It's good to know that the English are not pretending that life here is easy in the 'fast' lane. As for Lamb, he presents a pretty picture.



IMRAN'S SWANSONG?

RUMOURS are once again doing the rounds that the cricketing world's sex symbol, Pakistani cricket captain Imran Khan, is thinking of retiring.

Touring Down Under, the otherwise eloquent Khan is not letting on as to whether the Sydney



Test will be his last or not. Once already he has been persuaded out of retirement, more or less by presidential decree than by anything else. When he makes up his mind again, nothing can change it. People on the other hand, feel he'll play, but refuse to bet on it.

Imran Khan:
Is it the last hurrah?

FOCUS

DON KING:

Professor of Trickeration—Only In Boxing

EVER since Don King arrived in boxing, he has wisely projected style instead of substance. Mostly hair style and life-style. His coiffure appears to have been designed by a blown fuse.

His schedule features tuxedos for breakfast, limousines for lunch and unsuspecting negotiators for dinner. Then there's his word style. He hides behind the laughs that his vocabulary creates.

"That man," the promoter has said about many of his enemies, "is a master of trickeration."

If others are masters of trickeration, Don King is its professor. Through the years,

especially since he hypnotised Mike Tyson, boxing people have always whispered about the promoter's trickeration.

In the past we worked cleverly and carefully in the shadows as Tyson's "advisor." But he's suddenly centrestage for all the boxing public to see.

After both the World Boxing Council and the World Boxing Association had put the heavyweight title on hold despite James (Buster) Douglas's 10th-round knockout of Tyson in Tokyo, King's influence with those politicians was put up for inspection, if not investigation.

Now that the WBC and the WBA have upheld Douglas's victory despite the referee's long

count during Douglas's eighth round knockdown, King might slither back into the shadows.

But if both the organisations had bowed to King's protest and declared the Tokyo bout "no contest" or, worse, overturned it in Tyson's favour, the public would have realised that King controls boxing, not the alphabet soup chefs of the WBC and the WBA.

King himself now says he never protested the decision, just pointed out the controversial long count and asked for a rematch.

Ever since Czar and Abel threw boxing's first punches, the big money in the not-so-sweet science has always been quietly controlled by the promoters of the most

popular champions, usually the heavyweight champion.

In other eras, Tex Rickard controlled boxing when Jack Dempsey was the heavyweight champion, Mike Jacobs did when Joe Louis reigned, Jim Norris and the International Boxing Club did when Rocky Marciano held the title.

As soon as Muhammad Ali, then known as Cassius Clay, dethroned Sonny Liston, several promoters fought over him. King eventually emerged as Ali's promoter.

When the torch was passed to Larry Holmes, King held it. Not long after Tyson emerged, King waited until the death of Tyson's co manager, Jimmy Jacobs, before separating Tyson from Jacobs's partner, Bill Cayton, now Tyson's estranged manager.

In trumpeting his triumphs, King likes to say, "Only in America." No, only in boxing. No other sport is so easy to manipulate.

In baseball, pro football, basketball, hockey and just about every other sport, a champion is determined by a strict playoff or tournament structure.



ACTON PLUS

No, only in boxing. No oth

But except for an occasional mandatory defense against the top-ranked challenger, a boxing champion's schedule is determined by how much the bout will earn, not by a fighter's having earned a title shot.

"Boxing is capitalism at its best and its worst," Seth Abraham, the Home Box Office senior vice-president who negotiates its boxing deals, said. "The golden rule of boxing is, he who has the gold rules."

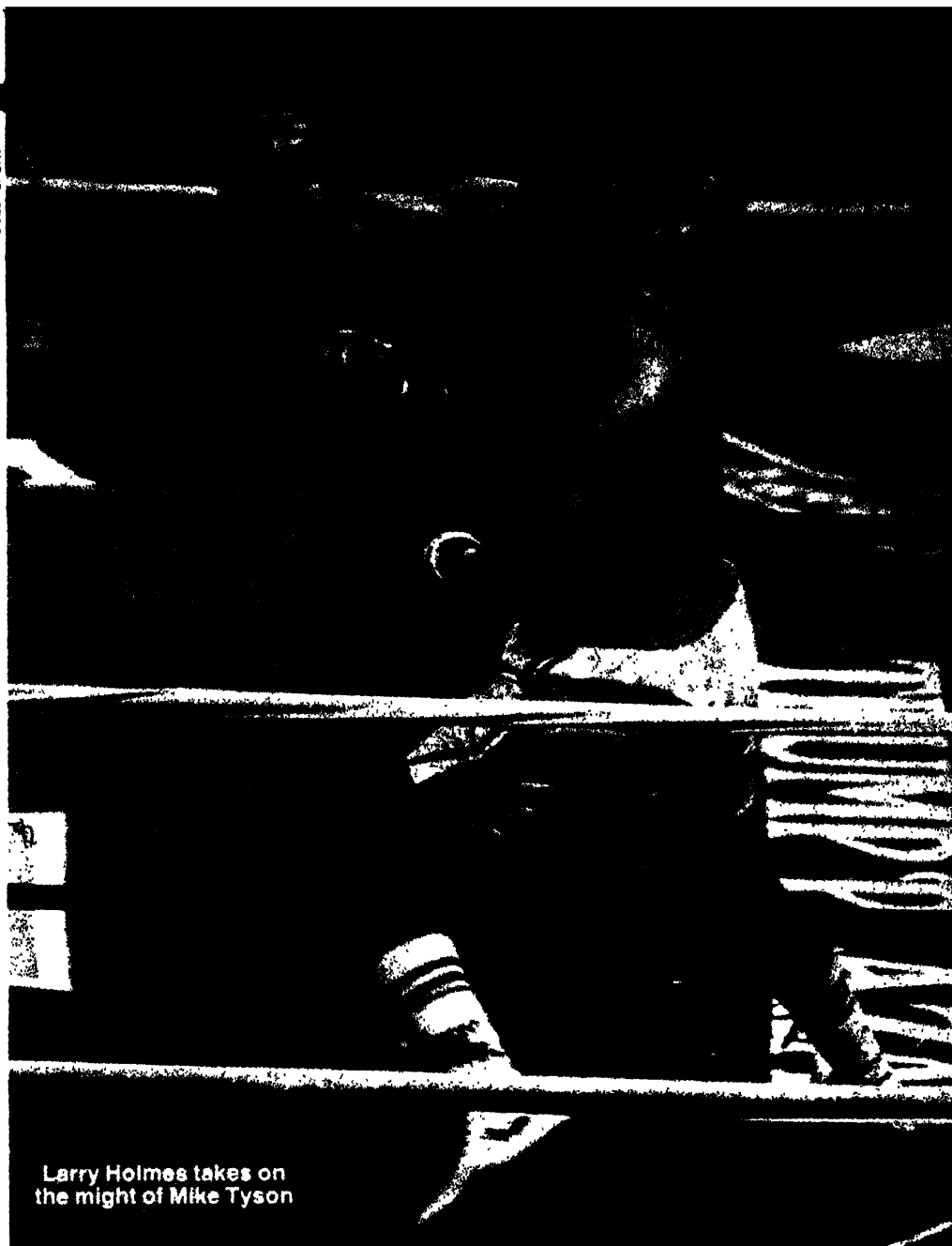
He who has the heavyweight champion usually has the gold. And the influence. To protect that influence, King is known to insert clauses in a title bout contract allowing him to approve the referee.

According to Eddie Futch, then Joe Frazier's manager, a referee clause was in King's contract for the "Thrilla in Manila" with Ali before Futch had King delete it.

Even so, King brought

But if both the organisations had bowed to King's protest and declared the Tokyo bout 'no contest' or, worse, over-turned it in Tyson's favour, the public would have realised that King controls boxing, not the alphabet soup chefs of the WBC and the WBA

COLORSPORT



Larry Holmes takes on the might of Mike Tyson

three referees, two Americans and an Englishman, to Manila. In the debate with Filipino officials, Futch argued for a Filipino referee, who turned out to be Carlos Padialla.

In the controversy over the Douglas-Tyson fight, one question is: Did King approve the referee, if not select him?

King's loud complaints over Douglas's long count

quickly persuaded the Mexican referee, Octavio Meyran Sanchez, to acknowledge his mistake in not shouting the count in sync with that of the knockdown timekeeper.

Another question: Did King influence the selection of the two Japanese judges to protect Tyson against a close decision? One had Tyson ahead on points after nine rounds, the

other had scored the fight even.

If King had succeeded in swaying the boxing bosses into depriving Douglas of the title the 29-year-old heavyweight earned, he might have inspired a public outcry to abolish boxing. Not for what happens inside the ring, but for what happens outside it.

Dave Anderson
Courtesy New York Times

port is so easy to manipulate

THIS week, instead of sticking to the normal instructional routine, we are breaking away to report on the Instructors' Camp held at the Kyokushinkai-kan Karate Headquarters, Cal-

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

ifornia. The instructional sessions with guests, placing special emphasis on perfecting their individual techniques on advanced katas and fighting/self defense maneuvers.

In my quest to hone these senior students into composed instructors, I even made each one of them conduct mock classes where they explained the intricacies of a couple of moves to the rest of the participants. This not only gave them the confidence to face a class, but also allowed me to pick out the flaws in their methods of imparting knowledge.

Since all the participants were very senior students—you have to undergo a minimum of three years' special training (and be an up-

Ganguly
(back to camera)
supervises a training session



The participants of the Instructors' Camp pose for the camera

came from 12th to 15th February. Altogether 15 karatekas participated in this high-intensity training module which readies advanced students for the responsibilities of coaching others in the art of Kyokushinkai-kan karate.

Having travelled from all corners of the country, the participants of this camp were very enthusiastic and the daily schedule of 7-9.30 a.m. and 9.30-9.30 p.m. hardly whetted their appetite. Realising how important it is to know the basics—the essence of the moves and the way they are performed—they threw themselves





Dr. Tapan Mukherjee conducts a medical class

per brown belt) to gain the status of being an instructor, the first year getting you the rank of Junior Instructor while the second is used for experience and the final year for the final instructors' examination (and promotion to black belt)—there were theory and practical classes which culminated in tests for all the 3rd year participants

Having been appointed as the representative of Kyokushinkai karate in India with the power to award black belts and award in-

structing powers, I feel it is better that people spend at least three years perfecting their own techniques and attitude before they try and teach others. That way, I feel, there is going to be some standard maintained unlike other cases where misinformed and under-qualified people break away from their class and set up a school of their own

In this regard I also felt it was important to educate these would-be instructors about the basics of first-aid and medical science. There-



Instructional class in progress



Jotish Kumar demonstrates a flying kick

fore, it was very kind of Dr Tapan Mukherjee to spare some time from his busy schedule to come and take a medical class where all the students could satisfy their queries about injuries and other physical problems

All in all, it was a very satisfactory camp with all the participants chipping in with enthusiasm and vigour

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-karate

PARTICIPANTS OF THE INSTRUCTORS' CAMP

Mohammed Anil (Delhi)—Black belt
D. Jotish Kumar (Kerala)—Awarded black belt
C.H. Abdul Rashid (Kerala)—Awarded black belt
B.K. Singh (Kanpur)—Awarded black belt
K.H. Priyakumar (Manipal)—Awarded black belt
Latif C.U. (Gannanore)—Awarded brown belt
Debnath (Dharwad)—Awarded brown belt
Hemanta K. Saitia (Guwahati)—Awarded brown belt
Hemant Chopra (Calcutta)—Awarded upper brown belt
S.K. Chakraborty (Poona)—Appearing for green belt
Sudesh Day (Calcutta)—Upper brown belt
Sumona Bose (Bombay)—Brown belt
Supreeth Mitra (Calcutta)—Appearing for brown belt
Prabir Das (Calcutta)—Brown belt
Sudhakar Biswas (Calcutta)—Upper brown belt



Arms And The Man

CARRYING on with the arm blasting techniques we d started on last week let's move onto some of the more dedicated ones now After all, if we re going to wow those folks out there with rolled-up sleeves, then just push ups aren't gonna do!

To start off with let's get all fired up by doing some dumbbell flyes Stand with a 10-pound dumbbell (don't get too ambitious) in each hand, stomach sucked in Holding both dumbbells out in front of you, swing them out to the side while keeping the arms extended fully When you've reached the full extent of your shoulder extension, bring the dumbbells back to the starting

position in front of you This exercise works the shoulder joints getting them strong and muscular to complement your arms

Now let's hone the triceps into peak condition Lying on a bench with your head just off the edge, feet firmly planted on either side for stability hold a barbell up above your head with arms totally extended Keeping your elbows in place and close together, lower the barbell towards the top of your head and lift back up till your arms are fully extended again If done correctly—where only the forearms are involved in the movement—the entire pressure is concentrated on the triceps, making



them grow and match the biceps which benefit from most of the other arm blasters

Bench presses are always good for the arms too. Though they are basically total upper body builders, bench presses also put your arms through the grinder when they lift and lower the barbell. Do them with the elbows flared out for one set of reps and then with the elbows tucked in for the other set. That way you'll be giving both the biceps and triceps an equal workout.

It's time now to concentrate a little on the elbow downwards. Most of us get so carried away with bulging bicep and rippling triceps that snap to attention whenever you twist your wrist that our forearms tend to get neglected. And that's a shame because powerful forearms that radiate strength and power are as impressive as the best shaped upper arms.

To put power into your forearms, hold a barbell resting against your thighs, arms fully extended. Then, working with the muscles of the forearm, curl the wrist upwards as much as you can. Clench the arm muscles at the top of the curl and slowly release the wrist to the relaxed position. Repeat at least ten times, slowly working your way up to 20 reps.

C'mon, try these out and watch your arms bulge with power. Like we'd said, if you're going to brave the tough turf, you better be armed with some muscle!

ASTHMATICS MAY BENEFIT FROM EXERCISE

ASTHMA doesn't have to stop you from participating in sports or enjoying exercise. New studies indicate that exercise is not only possible, but beneficial for many asthmatics.

The National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine in Denver conducted a study that found many asthmatic children were capable of participating in sports. Previously, many of these children had been encouraged by doctors, coaches and parents to remain on the sidelines. In addition to the usual benefits of exercise, many of the asthmatics gained an improved self-image and a feeling of belonging.

If you have doubts about asthmatics participating in sports, consider these facts. In the 1984 Olympic Games, asthmatic Nancy Hogshead won four medals in swimming. The 1984 US Olympic team included 66 athletes who suffer from asthma. Heptathlon (seven track and field events) gold medal winner Jackie Joyner-Kersey was one of 52 asthmatics on the 1988 U.S. Olympic team, of whom 15 won medals.

Warm-up exercises are essential for improved performance by asthmatics. Proper warm-up leads to greater endurance and delays exercise-induced asthma.

In fact, whether you are asthmatic or not, it is best to warm up before exercising. You'll want to include movements that are large and rhythmic, such as the exercise described here.

—Stand with your feet wide apart, legs slightly turned out. Start with both arms out to your sides.

—Bend knees slightly into a plie (a movement in which the knees are bent outward, with the back held straight), while circling your right arm overhead.

—Straighten your knees while your right arm completes the circle downward and finishes back out to your side.

—Repeat the plie while circling the left arm. —Alternate sets about 15 times and combine with other large, gentle movements for a warm-up of about five minutes.

If you have been refraining from exercise because of asthma or other health concerns, check with your doctor or with a clinic or hospital that specializes in your ailment. You may find that new research indicates moderate exercise is now recommended.

ASIA FEATURES



ROUNDUP

MADRAS

Bank Sports Board Chess

INTERNATIONAL master V Ravikumar won the inaugural Banks Sports Board (Southern region) chess tournament organised by Indian Bank in the city recently. Ravikumar, representing Union Bank, finished with six points in the seven round contest.

T S Ravi of Indian Bank also finished with six points but Ravikumar had a superior progressive score and was adjudged first. Ravi was placed second and his Indian Bank colleague K V Shantharam with 5.5 points was third. Two other players, International Master D V Prasad of Union Bank of India and M Suresh of Reserve Bank who also had 5.5 points were placed fourth and fifth.

After the early rounds were over, International Masters Ravikumar and Manuel Aaron along



V. Ravikumar: the champion

with K V Shantharam and P N Chellappa of Reserve Bank shared the lead midway through. Shantharam with a victory over Aaron (Indian Bank) in the fifth round took over the lead which he maintained at the end of the penultimate round. But a late surge by Ravikumar including his defeat of Shantharam in the final round saw him emerge triumphant.

The team championship in

corporated within this individual competition was won by Indian Bank who finished with 16 points. Union Bank and Reserve Bank tied for second place with 15 points each. The team score of a bank was arrived at by adding the three best scores of its four players in the tournament. Three International Masters and four FIDE-rated players were among the 24 participants. The standard then was predictably quite high though there were some lop sided matches.

The fastest win was recorded by M Suresh of Reserve Bank over K Manoj Kumar of Dena Bank. This opening round lasted just seven moves.

National Volleyball for the Deaf

THE All India Sports Council of the deaf is helping the handicapped to figure in sports even at the National level. And the fifth National Volleyball Championship of the Deaf held under the auspices of the Tamil Nadu Sports Council for the Deaf was one such event.

The four day meet held in the city last month (February) provided much interesting fare and went a long way to prove that given the opportunities, the deaf can rise above their handicap.

Not unexpectedly Kerala cornered most of the glory in the meet winning four of the six titles up for grabs. Tamil Nadu claimed the remaining two titles.

Kerala have been winning the men's title ever since its inception in 1981. And they made it five in a row when they defeated Karnataka 15-12, 15-6, 15-12 in the final. The scores do not tell the full tale of the match for it was an absorbing tussle. In the main it was a contest between the all round efficiency of Kerala and the individual brilliance of Karnataka skipper T V Manohar who incidentally has played for his State in the regular nationals.

Kerala also retained the women's title. Only four States took part in the event as compared to ten in the men's section. Kerala

BOMBAY

Players Felicitated

Indian Oil Corporation felicitated two of their employees who won the men's and women's titles at the National Table Tennis Championships held at Calicut recently. Picture shows Sujoy Ghosh and Niyati Roy with B.K. Bakhshi, Director (Marketing) and Subodh Mittal, General Manager (Personnel).



won all three league games to finish with six points Gujarat with four points were runners up

The other titles claimed by Kerala were the junior girls and sub junior girls They retained the former title while the latter event was being held for the first time

Tamil Nadu retained the junior boys title and won the sub junior boys crown This was also an event that was introduced this year In the former event, Tamil Nadu comprising entirely off boys from the champion school for the handicapped in the city, the St Louis Institute, beat back a strong challenge from Kerala 15-7, 9-15, 15-10, 15-9 to retain the title

While Tamil Nadu took third place in the men s event beating Maharashtra 15-11 15-7, 16-14 Andhra took the third place in the junior boys section with an easy 15-2 15-12 15-9 victory over Karnataka

Ten states Andhra Kerala Tamil Nadu Orissa Gujarat Assam, Maharashtra Uttar Pradesh Bihar and Karnataka took part in the championship

Partab Ramchand

CALCUTTA

Inter-school badminton

SILIGURI Nil Nalini High School stunned quite a few at the Lake Club courts when they won the boys' title in the first all-Bengal Inter-school badminton championships In the All-Siliguri final, Nil Nalini beat Hindi High School by the odd match in three

Xavier's English School, Konnagar defeated Carmel High School to clinch the girls' trophy named after international badminton star Madhumita Bisht

It was a successful championship jointly organised by the South Calcutta District Association and Lake Club Even though players from Calcutta formed the bulk of the participants in the meet, quite a few district schools entered the fray

ARUN BAKSHI



The champions: Siliguri Nil Nalini High School

In the boys' final, Tapas Biswas gave Nil Nalini a head start defeating Parvans Singh 15 3 15-12 in the opening singles The doubles too went Nil Nalini's way but not before Hindi High School gave a stiff fight Finally, Biswas and Sanjoy Banik won the doubles 4 15, 18-17, 15-13

In the girls' section it was an one-sided affair Mousumi Nandy of Xavier's School, defeated Gautami Mazumdar of Carmel School 11-0, 11-0 Then she paired with Sujaya Mukherjee to swamp the Carmel duo 15-0, 15-1

Mahua Kundu of St John's Diocesan was named the best player of the tournament The Fair Play Award went to Jadavpur Vidyapith

all over the State participating in the two-day championships

ABN Seal College of Cooch Behar proved to be the champion team although they did have to share the overall title with Durgapur Government College

Pradip Sarkar of Cooch Behar College won the individual title in the men's section, while Swapna Roy of the same college won the women's title ABN Seal won the women's title easily

Here are some of the results

Men
100m Partha Protim Ghosh
200m Debabrata Das
Discus Throw Pradip Sarkar
Women
100m Subabrata Dewan
200m Swapna Roy

College Athletics Meet

THE first inter governmental college athletics meet was held at the SAI-Netaji Subhas centre at Salt Lake with 16 colleges from

Taj Trophy

RANI SONTI clinched the Taj Trophy golf championship for women at the Tollygunge Club course It was glorious golfing by the chubby Ms Sonti who had taken a sizeable lead at the end of

the first day of the three-day meet.

The gulf had widened to five strokes at the end of day two. And, by the final day, she carded six under par to win the title. S. Rawla brought in a one under par to take the second spot. Asha Khurana, a well-known name in the city's ladies golfing circles, finished third, five shots adrift of Rawla.

Soumitra Bose

GUJARAT

State Open Tennis

THE Gujarat State open tennis championships concluded recently at the Ulhas Gymkhana in the township of Atul. More than hundred players took part including Enrico Piperno, Narendranath and the brat pack of Vishal Nayar, Asif Ismail and Benush Venugopal.

The message at the end of the tournament was clear: Experience counts; Brilliance without consistency does not. And thus, it was clearly Enrico Piperno's tournament.

He won the finals against Narendranath, 6-3, 6-4.

In the doubles final, Piperno teaming up with Mahesh Koregaonkar of Pune easily defeated Asif Ismail and Vijay Venkatesh of Madras, 6-1, 6-2.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Piperno had defeated Benush Venugopal 6-2, 6-3 while Narendranath defeated Vishal Nayar, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2.

In the women's section, in the absence of any real competition, Falguni Parsuna of Ahmedabad beat Sujatha Tasildar of Calcutta, 6-1, 6-3 while in the under 18 finals, she defeated Saloni Parikh of Bombay 4-6, 7-6, 7-6.

Some of the other results were as follows:

Boys Under 18: Altaf Merchant defeated Ranjit Salvi 6-3, 6-1.

Boys Under 18 (Doubles): Altaf Merchant and Sachin Kirtane defeated Apoorva Jog and Ranjit Salvi, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Srinivas Vijay



Enrico Piperno: victorious once again

PATNA

All-India Postal Badminton

BIHAR won the All-India Postal team's trophy for the fifth consecutive year beating Tamil Nadu 3-0 at the Post & Telegraph Recreation Hall, Patna.

Bihar's Suraj Prakash Sinha won the individual men's title for

the second consecutive year when, in a keenly contested final, he beat A. Rajendran of Karnataka, 15-10, 15-8.

The women's singles title went to T. Parmar of Gujarat when P. K. Khakliho of Madhya Pradesh conceded the match in the second game after hurting her knee. Parmar had won the first game, 12-10.

However, the main event of the evening turned out to be the men's singles final between local hero Suraj Prakash and A. Rajendran. Both players played fierce and competitive badminton, with drop

shots long rallies and searing smashes Suraj won the first game at 15 10 However in the second game for a while it seemed that Rajendran had the measure of Prakash who fumbled several times but it was Suraj who ultimately prevailed The score read 15 8 in his favour

Some of the other results were
Men's doubles Malay Chatterjee and Vibhuti Mohan Mishra (Bihar)

Women's doubles Mrs Brunda and Mrs Vagdevi (Karnataka)

Mixed doubles A Rajendran and Mrs Brunda (Karnataka)

Veterans singles K P Gupta (Uttar Pradesh)

Veterans doubles Anthony Mascall and S S Raman (Karnataka)

Arun Kumar Thakur

CALCUTTA

Clay-court Tennis

THE second Calcutta International School clay-court tennis championship was held in the South Club under the supervision of the pro tennis coach Mr Anwar Ali recently

In the senior boys section Avik Sarkar overcame Andre Barbosa in a gruelling two-hour slugging final 7-6(7 5) 7-5 In the senior girl's finals Nina Paul edged past a tiring Vaishali Ganguli 7 5 7-8 In the beginners group for boys Souparna Roy dropped a game to Bartek Piecuch while in the girls the score was identical as Sandrine Martin overcame a spirited challenge from Christine Jarniac

Shush Kocher

MADRAS

Kiddies Meet

THE Don Bosco Athletic Club in Madras recently held the club's annual kiddies meet which is one of the leading events for juniors This programme has grown steadily over the last two decades



CALCUTTA

Awards for Players

The Bengal Table Tennis Association felicitated the state players for their outstanding performance in the national level competitions.

Sitting: (From Left): Arup Basak; Kishalay Basak; Anindita Chakraborty; Rimi Banerjee; Manisha Chakravarty.

Standing: (From left): A De, S. De, Pradip Paul, Arjun Dutta, Partha Chowdhury

and this year's meet attracted about 1000 entries from 32 schools

The 1990 championship was the 20th of a series but the format was redesigned last year to bring in a wider age grouping and conventional athletic events Thus what was once promoted as a kiddies meet has now become a full fledged junior track and field event Indeed tiny tots from this meet have gone on to achieve greater things such as representing the State and re-writing records at a higher level

The two day meet saw keen competition from the age groups of 7 9 11 and 13 And a more encouraging factor was that the meet was sponsored by MRF The

Madras based tyre company is one of the leading promoters of sport in the country but they have generally sponsored international events It was gratifying to note that they played benefactors to a grass roots level meet

The level of competition was so high that as many as 25 records were created in their respective age groups Boys (13) years A Ganesh Kumar (21 points) Boys (11) V Rakesh (8 points) Boys (9) Jenkin Ruza (7 points) Boys (7) V Arjun (10 points) Girls (13) Josephine Ramya (17 points) Girls 11 Anjali Ramdas (6 points) Girls (9) Giselle Igayami (13 points) Girls (7) O Shalini (8 points)

Partab Ramchand

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 What is 'Russian pool'?
- 2 Who is the first West Indies player to score a century in a one-day international?
- 3 What does the abbreviation 'I A S M' stand for?
- 4 'QRP' is an abbreviation for the name of a White Pawn in Chess. Which is it?
- 5 An American professional golfer was nicknamed 'The Haig'. Who?
- 6 'Pickle' is a spot slang. What does it mean?
- 7 With what sport is Serbing Grand Prix of Endurance associated?
- 8 Who was the black American boxer to have held the world light-heavyweight title for ten years?
- 9 Which sport is integral to the theme of the movie *Blood and Sand*?
- 10 Which game has been described as 'Volleyball played with feet and other parts of the body, except the hands'?

ANSWERS

- 1 An off-shoot game of billiards
- 2 Roy Fredericks at the Oval in September 1973
- 3 Indian Association of Sport Medicine
- 4 Queen Rook Pawn
- 5 Walter Hagen
- 6 Baseball rundown
- 7 Motor Sport
- 8 Archie Moore. He held the title from 1952 to 1962
- 9 Bullfighting
- 10 Sepak Takraw or Sepak Raga

CHESS

Lasker, Capablanca and Alekhine successively held the world title. Yet the great Akiba Rubinstein beat all of them in their first encounters. The game with Lasker is justly famous, while the game with Alekhine is frankly boring. Here is the game with Capablanca.

White: Rubinstein Vs Black: Capablanca, Tarrasch Defence 1911

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 c5 3 c4 e6 4 cd5 ed5 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 g3 Be6 7 Bg2 Be7 8 O O Hc9 dc5 Rxc5 10 Ng5! Nf6

11 Nxe6 fe6 12 Bh3 Qe7 13 Bg5 O-O To delay castling in this manner is risky and now white wins a pawn with a very well calculated sequence.

14 Bxf6 Qxf6 15 Nxd5! Qh6! Taking the piece would obviously lose. Less obvious is 15—Bxf2+ 16 Kg2 Qh6 17 Nf4! Black finds the best move 16 Kg2 Rcd8 (see Diagram). It looks like black should win but—17 Qc1!! ed5 This move Rubinstein had seen on is 10th! Black is forced into a lost endgame where he still has significant counterplay.

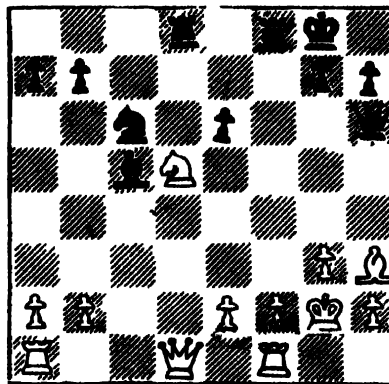
18 Qxc5 Qd2 19 Qb5! Nd4 20 Qd3 Qxd3 21 ed3 Rfe8 22 Bg4 Rd6 23 Rfe1 Rxe1 24 Rxe1 Rb6! Passive defence by 25 b3 Ra6 or 25 Rb1 will not win now so white must activate his pieces.

25 Re5! Rxb2 26 Rxd5 Nc6 27 Be6+ Kf8 28 Rf5+ Ke8 29 Bf7+ Kd7 30 Bc4 a6 31 Rf7+ Kd6 32 Rxc7 b5 33 Bg8 a5 34 Rxc7 a4 35 h4 b4 36 Rh6+ Kc5 37 Rh5+ Kb6 38 Bd5! This is a hiccup 38 Bc4 b3 39 Rb5+ Kc7 40 Bxb3! wins easily.

38—b3? Unbelievably Capa misses 38—Rxa2! When 39 Bxa2 b3 wins while Bc4 Rc2 leaves black with strong passers.

39 ab3 a3 Bxc6 Rxb3 Fortunately 40—a2 41 Rb5+ Ka6 42 Rb8! stops the pawn 41 Bd5 a2 42 Rh6+ (1-0). The Cuban resigns because white can always station his rook behind the passed pawn.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

One of the world's leading players during the last decade has been Michel Perron. He has been a

member of the French team that won two world team titles during the early Eighties and still is one of the strongest forces in the bridge world. Here he is seen in action in a European pairs which he won in partnership with his equally brilliant country-mate Paul Chemla --

Dealer North

Both vul

NORTH (dummy)

♠ 3
♥ A Q J 6 4 2
♦ 8 3
♣ K J 9 5

WEST

♠ A 7 5
♥ K 9 8
♦ J 9 6
♣ Q 7 4 2

EAST

♠ 8 4
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 10 7 5 4 2
♣ A 8

SOUTH

♠ K Q J 10 9 6 2
♥ 10 5
♦ K
♣ 10 6 3

The auction was identical at all tables with South buying the hand in four spades after East had overcalled two diamonds over North's one heart opening. The play also started identically with East winning the opening diamond lead with the ace, cashing the club ace and continuing with a second club to East's queen and dummy's king. Now there came a parting of ways.

Most Souths following the general principle of trying to remove the outstanding trumps as soon as possible when a ruff threatens, played a trump from dummy at trick four. West won and gave partner a club ruff to set the contract.

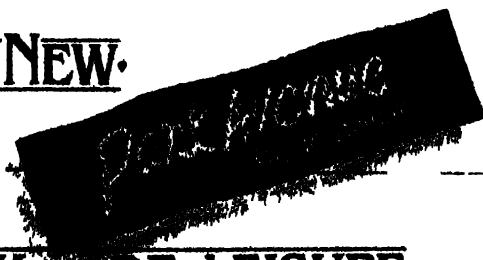
In contrast, Perron apparently had not heard of such principles and was in no hurry to touch trumps! At trick four he ruffed back a diamond to hand to first finesse the hearts, leading the ten and passing it. A second heart to the jack followed and then Perron tried to cash the heart ace. It would not help East not to ruff for then declarer can throw away his last club before playing trumps, so he ruffed. South over-ruffed in hand and at last playing a high trump from hand. West won immediately but by now East had run out of trumps and could no longer get a ruff.

Santanu Ghose



*If only everyday
could be a Sunday.*

THE NEW.



LOOK OF LEISURE.
T-SHIRTS AND JEANS



LINTAR PA R 2748

South Africa Dese

Rob Hughes examines how football has become an effective catalyst in the racial chemistry in South Africa

It is more than coincidental that Nelson Mandela returned to his people in a soccer stadium. Practically speaking, Soccer City, a new \$17 million stadium situated between Soweto and Johannesburg, was chosen so that 85,000 people could see him.

But it is not merely the size and convenience of the building that made it suitable for Mandela's spiritual homecoming. By such shallow logic we would have to always equate Santiago Stadium with the torture and slaughter of Chilean dissidents years ago.

No, soccer, I would suggest, has earned the right to be a catalyst toward a greater racial tolerance in South Africa.

The sport long ago befriended apartheid's disenfranchised majority. It grew from the ground up to embrace integration in measures that were until now a punishable offense.

Keep sport out of politics? You may as well keep blood out of veins!

This writer detests those who, like the English cricketers about to be sent packing from South Africa, sell their conscience for Krugers. The succor they give to sport laid on for racism's apologists is unforgivable.

But soccer has its champions of conscience, notably in this instance Ruud Gullit. A Dutchman of Surinamese extraction, Gullit deliberately chose a hairstyle of flowing dreadlocks that dance as he works his magic on the field.

He is proud, not ashamed, of what he is. And with equal sincerity, he used his fame to campaign for the release of Mandela and the end of discrimination.

Maybe the time is coming when FIFA, the international soccer authority, should take the initiative to invite South Africa's reapplication into its 166-nation family.

Soccer there is predominantly black, lest we forget, so is the population. But the blacks do not exclude anyone.

In the Soccer City stadium some months ago, South Africa's FA Cup final was played between two Soweto teams, Kaizer Chiefs and Moroka Swallows.

And while in normal society it is abhorrent to count the colours of men's skins, this time it is pertinent that Kaizer fielded eight blacks and three whites against Moroka's seven blacks.

My view is that sports sanctions were humane and correct while South Africa uniquely wrote racial discrimination into its sporting constitution. The day that changes, we should no more isolate South Africa than many other nations whose regimes we dislike.

Integrated soccer in all its beauty has never been better exhibited than among Brazilians.

The game cannot feed or clothe or educate the poor, but it can, it does promote equality beneath the skin.

Almost to the day that President de Klerk opened his mouth on freedom in South Africa, one of Brazil's adored sons played his final game before 100,000 fans in Rio de Janeiro.

I refer to Zico, the man they called the white Pele. It was in no sense a derogatory term, indeed it was a millstone never quite lifted from Zico.

A Dutchman of Surinamese extraction, Gullit deliberately chose a hairstyle of flowing dreadlocks that dance as he works his magic on the field...He is proud, not ashamed, of what he is



Yes FIFA's Notice

There never could be another Pele. There will never be such freedom as he exploited on the field. But I confess, I am surprised at Zico's statistical excellence:

Played 89 times for Brazil, 66 goals.

Played 1,046 professional games, 729 goals.

The statistics are second only to you-know-who.

But a career is not worked out on a calculator. I will always remember meeting Zico (real name Artur Antunes Coimbra) 13 years ago on Dedo de Deus, the Finger of God mountain above Rio where Brazil trained.

He was so frail, the eyes so wary, the pressure so evident. But as we spoke, someone shouted a warning, a ball travelling at great speed threatened to decapitate us.

Zico leapt, his left foot raised above his head, and as he pulled the ball down, the sense of joy and of control in him blew away the stiffness.

What struck me was the almost effortless grace of movement, Zico bettered that when, with balletic balance, he outwitted Italy's Claudio Gentile during a World Cup match in 1982.

A gliding body-swerve, followed by an instinctive back-heel from Zico put Socrates through for Brazil's first goal in a breathtaking 3-3 draw in Barcelona.

In the same afternoon, Gentile tore the shirt of Zico trying to hold back the eel. I wrote that I hoped Zico had offered the Italian the shredded cloth during the sporting exchange of shirts at the final whistle.

Years later, I learned that he indeed did. The shirt is a proud possession of Gianni Agnelli, who owns Juventus, the club Gentile played for.

Also in Spain, Zico spoke for those who understand the true spirit of Sport. Reacting to a dreadfully cynical, deliberately goalless game between Austria and West Germany, Zico observed:

"God should punish them for what they did".

Punishment comes in mysterious ways. I recall Zico missing a penalty that cost Brazil victory against France at the 1986 World Cup. Somehow it was Zico's fate: the nearly man, nearly the white Pele, nearly as good as the talent within him.

*Zico,
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COLORSPORT





CAMEROON

On the 18th of November 1988, a tiny nation of 465,054 sq. km. with a population of

eleven million went delirious with joy. The reason? Their nation had qualified for the 1990 edition of the World Cup. At Tunisia's expense.

A breakaway move in the 18th minute saw Prosper Osumi Bilyik, deflect a left wing cross past Shoushane in the Tunisian goal. Goal! The 45,000 Tunisian crowd in the El Mennah Stadium, went into an ecstacy, as their country bowed out...

Yes. The "Indomitable Lions" from the Cameroon, are back in their second World Cup! With a bang!

In Round 8, Group C of the African zone, Cameroon were pitted against Nigeria (so splendid in youth soccer), Angola and Gabon. And easily won it. With a played-6, won-4, drew-1; lost-1; for-9 goals, against-6 goals. Totalling 9 points. This also included the three first round games.

Meanwhile Tunisia won their Group D with 7 points. So Round 8 saw Cameroon facing Tunisia over two legs. Cameroon came off with a 3-0 aggregate win.

The Republic of Cameroon was once a

German colony in 1904, called "Kamerun". When in 1918, the French and the British captured it, it became the "Republique du Cameroun". The Africans won complete independence in January 1, 1960, and moved like lightning, to join FIFA in 1962. Ever since, this former French Imperial African colony, became a rising powerhouse of black African soccer.

After having gone undefeated in 1982, Spain, it is fascinating to see what the indomitable lions now do in 1990.

African players have been relieving role notices from European experts, who think that Africa will prove to be a major force in the 1990s. In 1974, Eric G. Batty of England wrote that "Africa will leave the U.S.A. flat in the football race."

CAMEROON were quick to show its strength after independence.

In 1964, Cryx of Douala bagged the African Clubs Cup. So did Canon of Yaounde in 1971, and twice in between 1978 and 1980.

And Union, Cameroons. Tunisia had bagged the Cup Winners Cup.

The African Footballer of the Year title instituted by France Football in 1970, has gone to Cameroon players five times. (goalkeeper Thomas N'Kono twice in 1979 and 1989!)

And, of course, Cameroon became African champions in 1984 and 1988, coming second in 1986. In the process, becoming the best African side of the Eighties. Winning, and entertaining. .!

Now Valeri



Nepomniaschi, a 45-year-old Russian is in charge of this highly entertaining squad. With Jean Manga Onguene, Africa's Footballer of the Year in 1984, assisting him. He took over from Claude Leroy, the French manager who got them the 1988 African championship

Nepomniaschi, a former student and assistant of the Soviet manager Valeri Lobanovsky, did a grand job. He found the right blend: Soviet speed, stamina and organisation allied to the natural skills and animal magnetism of the loose-limbed black Africans. He got them disciplined too, and infused tactical consciousness. It worked wonders. He has based this

Manager: Valeri Nepomniaschi
Colours: Green shirts with yellow collars, red shorts, yellow stockings/Yellow shirts, red shorts, green stockings
Opponents: Group B (Naples-Bari-Milan). Argentina, Soviet Union, Rumania
Previous World Cup appearances: 1982: First round elimination after being unbeaten with three draws, including one against Italy who finally won the tournament

squad on the 'Foreign Legion' of seven professionals playing in France

Joseph-Antoine Bell is Africa's leading goalkeeper. A superbly efficient player, and a clown under the bar, he plays for Bordeaux of France. He has pushed the former hero, Thomas N'Kono, to second place now. But at the age of 35, this could be his last World Cup.

Emmanuel Kunde at 33, like Bell is an outstanding player. A wonderful defender, and survivor, like N'Kono of

1982, Spain. He is home-based, playing for Canon of Yaounde. He will be marshalling the defence, some of whom will be Pierre Onana (24) also of Canon of Yaounde, Jean Claude Pagal (26), playing for La Roche Sur Yon (France), Victor N'Dip Akem (24) also of Canon, reliable and experienced, Richard Abena (23) of Union Douala, a very creative defender. And Bertin Andrew Ebwelle (26), a fearless and hard man, recently introduced.

An equally efficient

midfield could see some new faces in Andrew Kalna Biyik for instance. Playing for Metz in France, this young player is regarded as a potential winner.

A brilliant new find is the 23-year-old Thomas Libih, of Tunnerre, Yaounde, a midfielder with a great future. And at his side will be the most respected Stephen Tataw (26) who can double up as a right back with ease. He has been rejecting lucrative offers from Belgian and French clubs. Other midfielders could well be Cyrille Thewg Makanaky (24), a valuable goalscorer too, now with Ajaccio and Lens in France. And some others.

Louis Paul M'fede (30) of Canon Yaounde, a good scorer and veteran, Ernest Ebongue (26) of Guimares, Portugal, fast and dangerous and Bona Ventura Djonkep (26) of Union Douala, form the crux of the strike force. Young and skilful players are waiting on the wings. So the final lineup may be modified.

Cameroon has a reasonable chance of reaching the second round, by finishing second in their group. Or becoming one of the best of the four third-placed sides. If they upset Argentina in the inaugural match of the tournament, they could just do something big this time.

An upset? Quite likely. But will it create a new setup? God Knows!

By Patrick Murray



THE MASTER OF ALL HE SURVEYS

I can do without watching Linford Christie run. It was watching him walk to the start that I cannot bear to miss. No one does it quite like him: that marvellous, insouciant slouch, shoulders loose, head carriage high. He has an air of owning all of the earth within a half-mile radius.

Viv Richards has something of the same thing, of course, but Richards' stock-in-trade is confrontation. Christie does not look like a conqueror: he looks like a man who is master of all he surveys through right of birth.

"My aim is to be the world No. 1, and I'm on my way there," he said after winning the Commonwealth 100m in spectacular time: he was 100th of a second outside the world record for the 100 metres, the world record set by Carl Lewis when Lewis finished second to Ben Johnson. Johnson's track-burning effort no longer counts, of course.

Nor does Christie's time of 9.93 sec because he was pushed on a bit by a sprightly wind. That does not stop it being a remarkable run, a famous victory. The Great Athletics

Rumours Factory is producing huge numbers of stories about the Lewis-Johnson rematch for the right to be called the fastest man in the world, something that can take place when Johnson's ban is completed on September

25 this year. It does not seem two years since that extraordinary sporting day, but there it is.

On the evidence of Seoul 1988, when Christie was third and again on the Commonwealth run any

fastest-human-being race that starts without Christie is a waste of time.

Christie is also probably the most sensational-looking athlete of these Games. That slinking panther-like stroll helps, but the head is truly amazing. Seen in repose, he looks like a carving, rather an idealised one, and his features seem to be in repose a fair amount of time. And he had them stone dead right from his impassive walk to the start.

The race itself was something else. The head on camera in a sprint is perhaps the most revealing shot in sport. Just from Seoul, I gave us three unforgettable images: Flo-Jo's brilliant smile when she knew she had won, even though she was still 30 metres from the tape; Johnson's blazing, red-eyed fury in victory; and Lewis's panicky, slithery sideways glances at Johnson throughout that amazing race.

The head-on told another story with Christie. The man had gone so far beyond tunnel-vision that he seemed to have set aside the sense of sight altogether. I swear he

LINFORD CHRISTIE



COLLINS/SPORT

did not blink once in those nine and a bit seconds of absolute commitment. And that expression of fierce delight as he broke the tape that gave us something of a clue about the emotional life of Linford Christie.

He is not one of those rather objectionable fellows who feel they have to put on a show of cool. After the race, his smiling pleasure in his own performance gave pleasure to everyone within range. He doesn't seem to try and play cool at all; perhaps he is one of those rare individuals who really is cool.

He slouched into his post-race press conference, the very image of the Successful Athlete. He wore two of the diagnostic signs of this species around his neck: a gold medal and a pair of headphones from his walkperson.

I wonder why it is that so many black people who are talented in sport turn to track and field. There is the important fact that it is a pretty cheap sport. But more, I think, it is a case of well, people like Christie. Sebastian Coe was asked at a press conference in Sydney why track and field was not a major sport in Australia.

He said that if the country produces one very great track and field athlete, more will follow. It was a question of "raising the consciousness of athletics as a sport." That is what Coe has done in middle distance and what people like Christie and Daley Thompson, and the other black athletes of that (excuse me, lads,

COLLESPORT



Linford Christie with Tessa Sanderson

C

HRISTIE

is probably the most sensational looking athlete of these Games. That slinking panther-like stroll helps, but the head is truly amazing. Seen in repose, he looks like a carving, rather an idealised one; and his features seem to be in repose a fair amount of time. And he had them stone dead right from his impassive walk to the start.

heroes. Now one must not be too glib here.

Christie was happy to talk about his great friend, Colin Jackson, who won another track and field gold medal for Britain. Jackson won his for Wales. It no longer seems bizarre to see a black athlete complete a lap of honour with a red dragon flag and receive a medal.

The black athletes of Britain create a very jolly atmosphere for each other: much banter, teasing and rivalry. They share an enviable sense of

brotherhood, of solidarity. Part of that, however, springs from an altogether unenviable shared sense of oppression that they learnt in their formative years. Christie received his medal to *Land of Hope and Glory*, the 'victory anthem,' as these ditties are termed in the Games' rules, of England.

However, unsuited and irony do you want?

*Wider still and wider Shall they bounds be stretched
God who made thee mighty Make thee mightier yet!*

I wonder if the writer of these objectionable words had in mind the image of a stunning looking black man receiving a splendid prize for England beneath the flag of St George. It is the best use of the song I have heard of yet.

but fact is fact. Older generation have done. They have made track and field a natural avenue of excellence for black people.

They have also become national (rather than merely racial) sporting

Simon Barnes

IT was Imran Khan's Editorial in *Cricket Life* that triggered off a debate in our office. It read: "The Sri Lankans' anger about racist remarks is something I fail to understand. Unless one has an inferiority complex about one's race, why should it worry anyone if he's called black or brown? If someone called me a brown man or a Paki, I would accept it as something that is an indisputable fact. However, if someone calls me a Paki 'so and so', it is the 'so and so' that might upset me."

The *Sportsworld* desk was divided; Imran is plain right said some; it's superficial to take a detached view because you first have to be abused in a racist manner to understand how it feels, insisted others.

The practical side of the argument is that Imran has probably never been called a 'brown Paki'. One, because he does not look 'brown' (as the Asian Paints colour chart shows it), and two, sledgers are careful enough to intimidate only the 'jelly' competitors. Only a masochist will hiss 'You black Antiguan!' within whispering distance of a certain I.V.A. Richards and expect to sit back and relish the fallout.

Imran is right when he says that only a Sri Lankan who feels inferior, because his skin is brown and not white or yellow, complains. The proud Sri Lankan would probably glare and say: 'Buzz off, whitey!' or work up an artificial smile and embarrass the other fellow with: "Wonder what took you so long to

freewheeling

guess!" While an abrasive reply can possibly lead to increased verbal pressure, an attempt to defuse the attrition with humour can, however, even make the perpetrator feel a bit ashamed of himself.

There is one argument which Imran probably missed. No cricketer in my view wields a precise command of the English language to refer only to

a statement of fact; in the heat of the moment, most blurt: 'You black bastard!' (Bob Willis to Viv Richards) or 'You black cheat!' (Ian Smith to Mohinder Amarnath). I have yet to hear of a cricketer calling another 'You brown Indian' or 'You white Englishman!' The abuse one generally hears these days links colour with references to incest

and the legality of the marital status of one's parents.

It is an interesting theory, but cricketers seldom seem to object to being called 'bastard' or the like. Perhaps because these terms have come to be accepted as part of modern sport. Besides, it has also become mutual. If I can call you that when you are batting and get away with it, I shouldn't cry wolf when it's your turn to stand at silly point and do the same.

But it is the other half of the abuse—the reference to colour—that is found to be derogatory. Maybe because it is quite a new phenomenon and not really part of cricket lore. Or maybe because South Africa and apartheid and Nelson Mandela have become such everyday terms that any reference to colour, factual or otherwise, is considered to be poor in taste.

However some cricketers are surprisingly willing to give this the go-by. Greenidge wrote of an instance when Border called Garner a 'black bastard' and how, to the surprise of all his fiercely proud West Indian colleagues, the towering giant didn't respond at all. No raised eyebrows, no verbal retaliation, no whizzing bouncer, no toe-crushing yorker. Garner just didn't react.

Maybe he could have used a little humour like Frank Worrell. "Don't you find being black a disadvantage?" he was once asked by an overzealous interviewer. "Of course I do," replied Worrell, deadpan, "...when I am shaving." **Mudat Patharya**



"I find being black a disadvantage...when I am shaving!"

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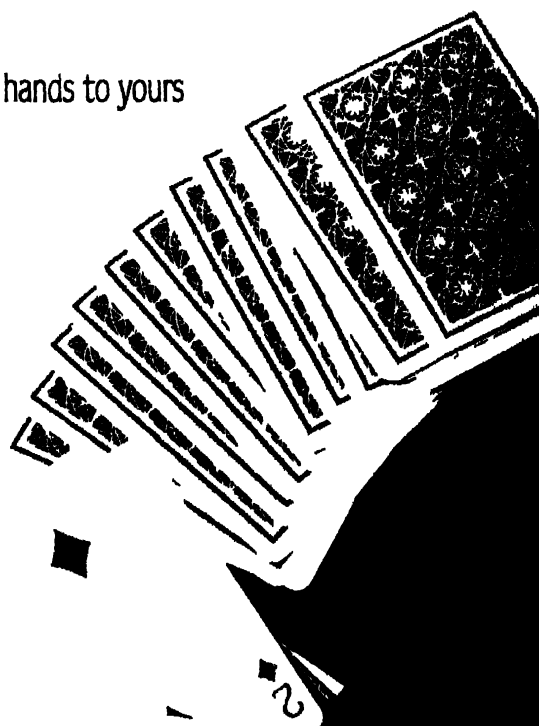
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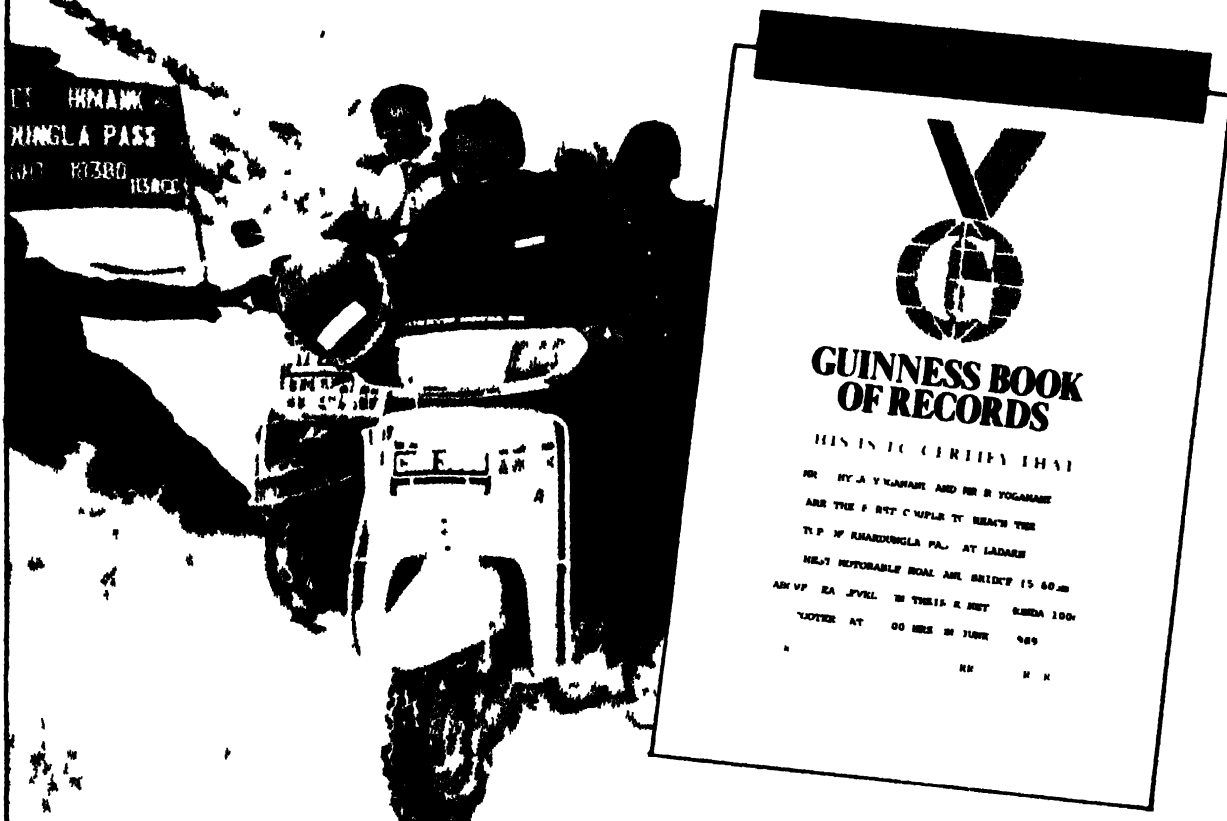
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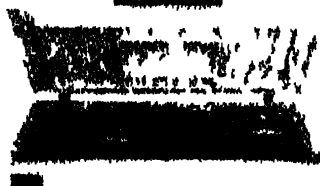
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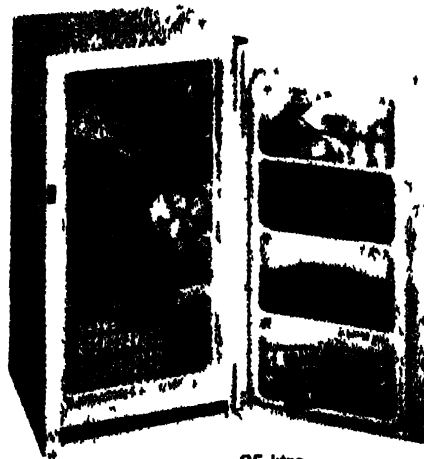
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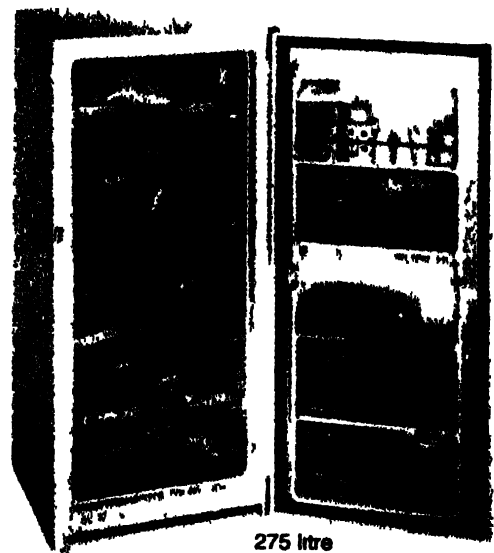
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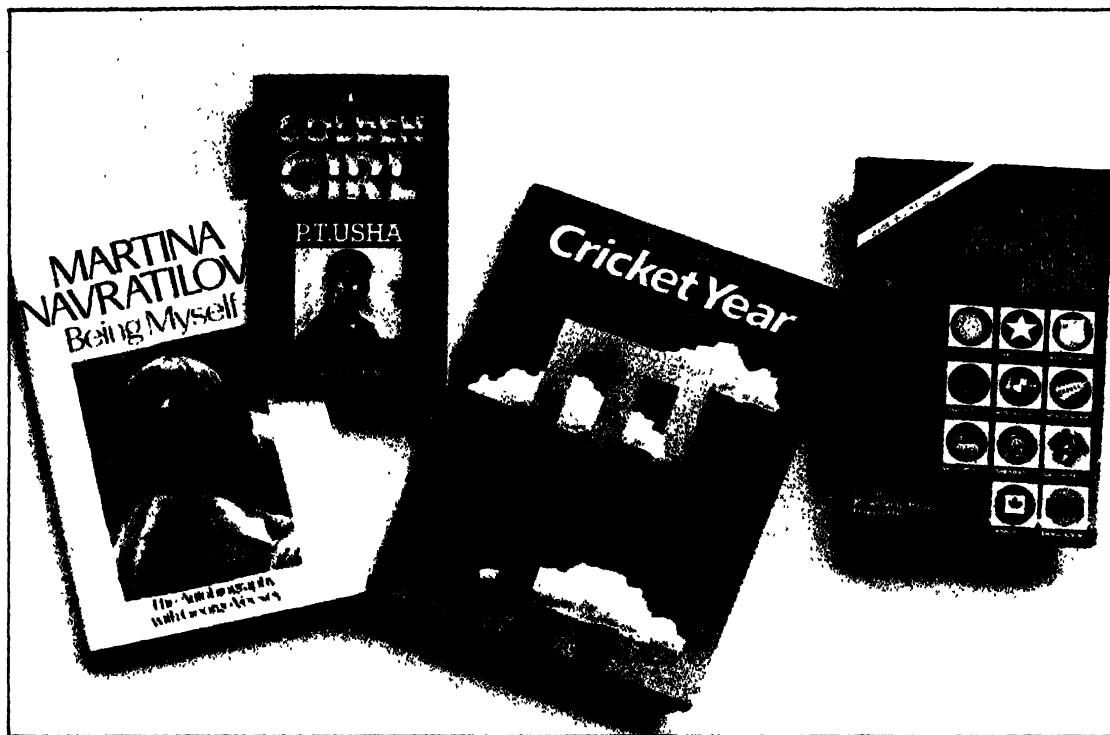


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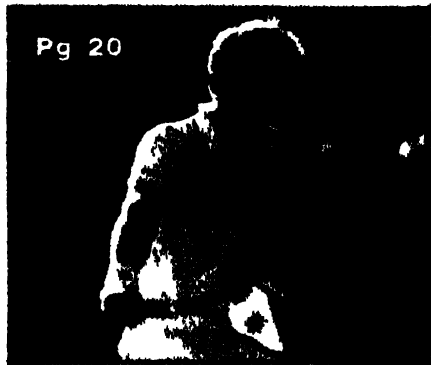
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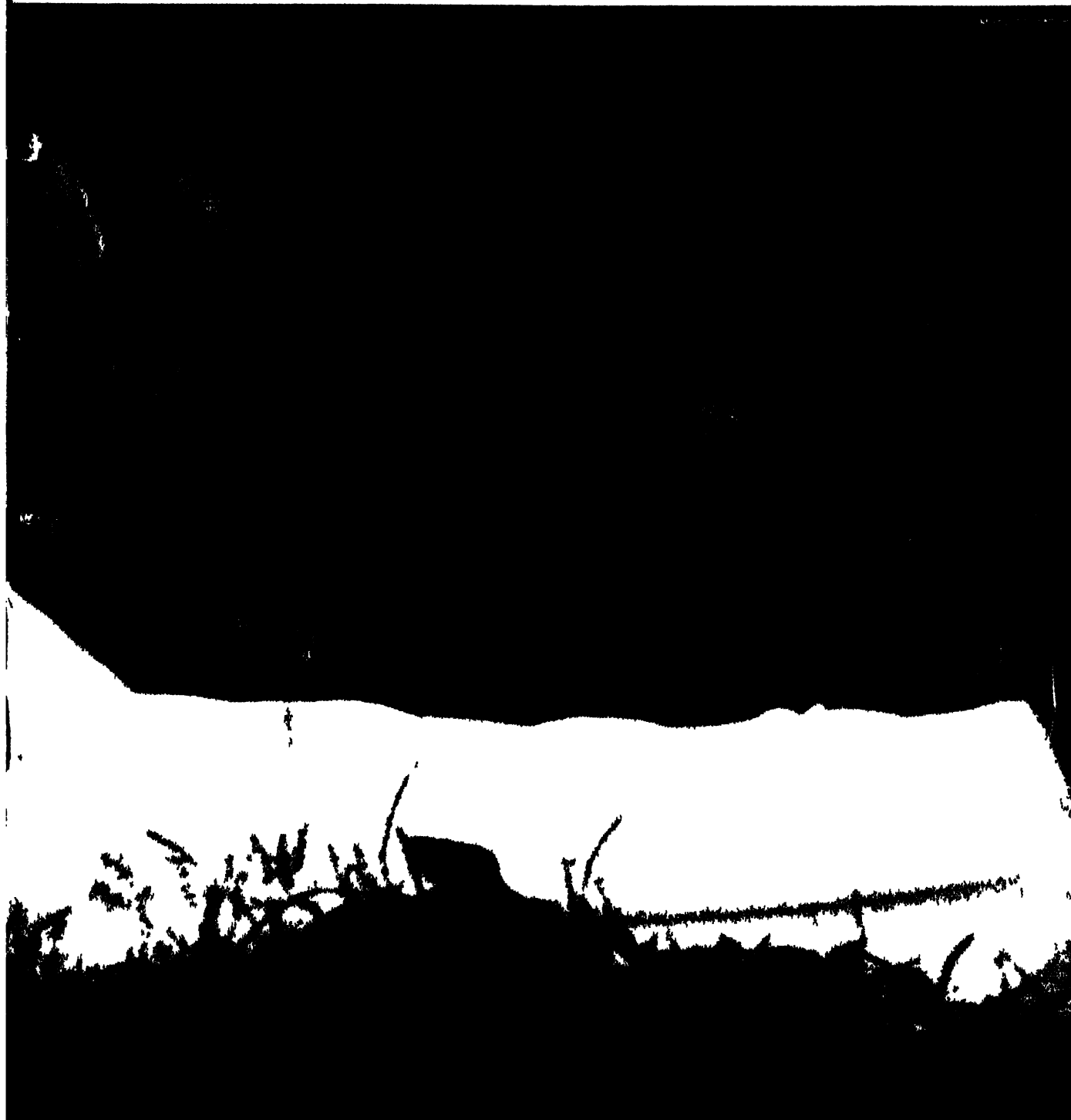
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Rumours doing the rounds of the cricketing circuit are retiring the Khan from cricket. The Khan may be down, but not out. He can't afford to retire, at least not when his batting has hit a purple patch. But there may be times when he may want to put his head down on the cricketing green and smile wistfully at the heavens. See page 40.

20. The Aussie Open tennis tournament is remembered not for Ivan Lendl's victory but for John McEnroe's dramatic exit by default. Recently, in the Stuttgart Classic, Boris Becker came within one point to being thrown out. The attitude of the umpire is suffocating the 'characters' of the game. At least, that's what Rohit Brijnath feels as he argues his case

40. The cricketing world is buzzing with the latest news. Is Imran Khan retiring? Yes, say some experts. No, say the others. On the other hand, the debonair Khan, in what might perhaps be his last interview speaks to Mudar Patherya on matters ranging from girls, marriage, religion, colonialism right down to his receding hairline and more!

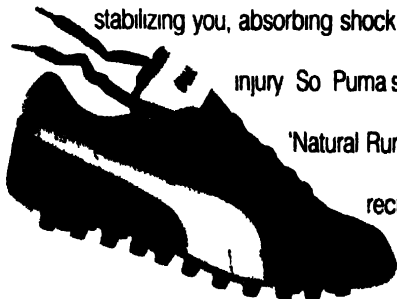
78. The soccer World Cup this year may not have the same charm as it promised earlier. There are shock waves reverberating through the 'soccer circuit' that the top stars—namely Gullit, Michailichenko and Vialli may not take part due to injuries. Without the presence of the three of them, will all roads lead to Rome? Plus profile of the Uruguayan soccer team.



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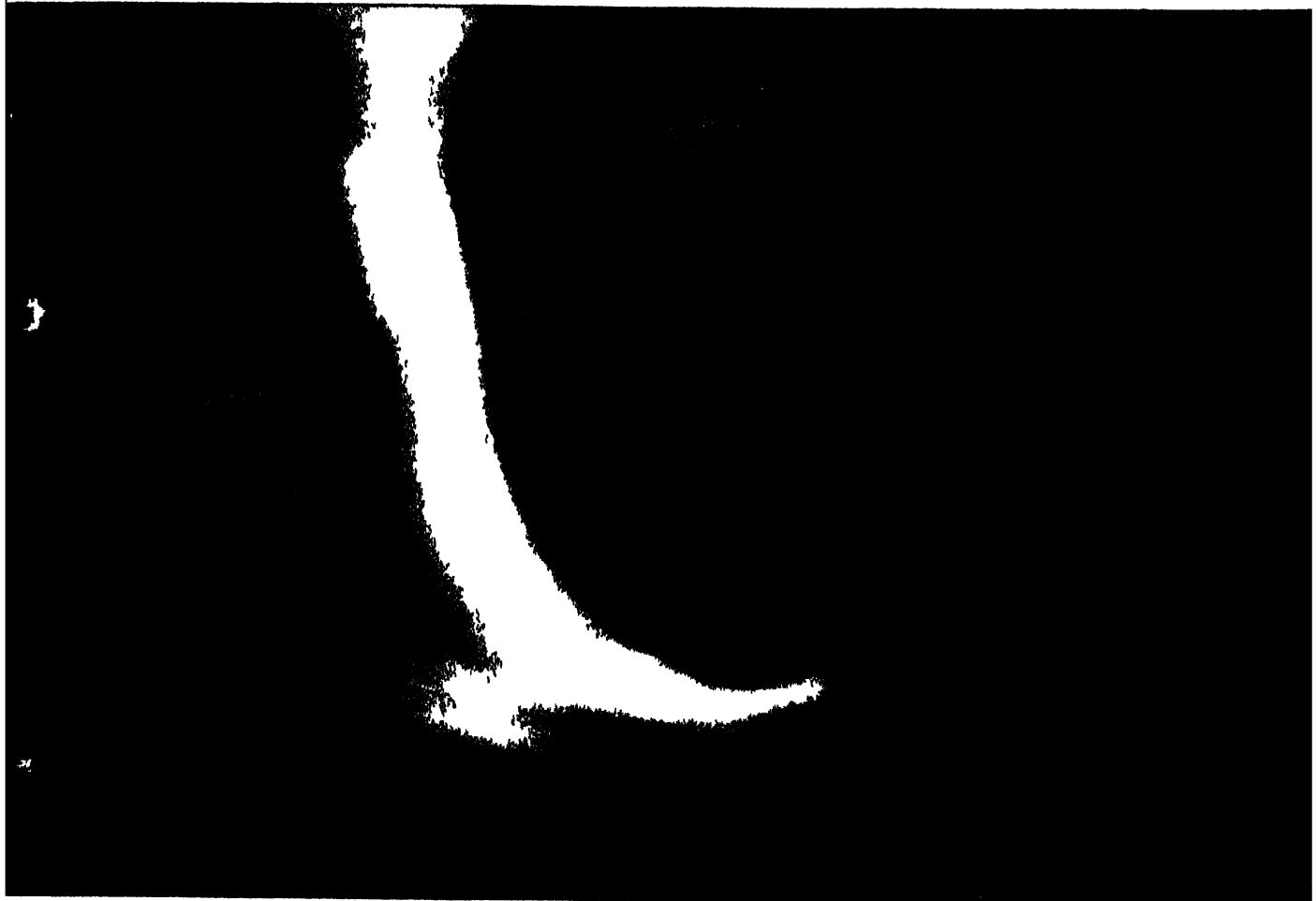
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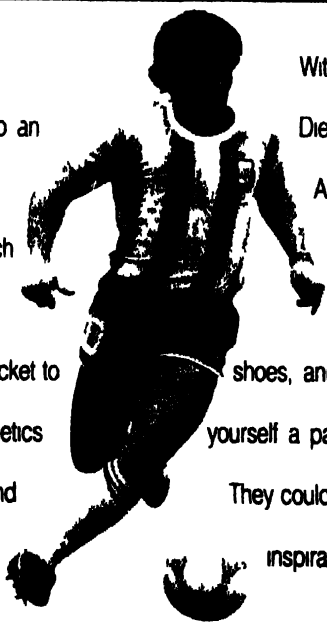
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AFTAB GUL

THE CRICKETER WHO DARED GENERAL ZIA!

THE bare sketch of Aftab Gul, cricketer for Lahore and Pakistan, in the 'Complete Who's Who of Test Cricketers' by Christopher Martin-Jenkins is enough to tempt me into tracking him down one December afternoon in Lahore

I have a xeroxed biographical copy in front of me. "A stocky, right-handed opener," it says, "Aftab Gul, although over-impetuous on occasions, was often a reliable and effective batsman. He toured England in 1971, coming second in the batting with 1154 runs (46.16), sharing in some splendid attacking opening partnerships with Sadiq Mohammed, but his highest score in the Test was only 33. At home he played against England in 1968-69 and New Zealand in 1969-70 without much success. In 1968-69, while a law student at Punjab University, he became the first player to appear in first class cricket while on bail for alleged political activities. Such was his following, indeed, as a student leader that it was said that Pakistan officials did not dare to play the Lahore Test without him."

I am asked to go to 51 Mozang Road in central



A man with sentences for 84 years of rigorous imprisonment on his head. A man who had the guts to file a habeas corpus against General Zia. A political fugitive who spent half-a-decade in exile. Besides, he also played Test cricket for Pakistan! Mudar Patherya tracked him down one December afternoon in Lahore.

Lahore. Signboards in Urdu indicate the offices of a few lawyers in the building. A brief low-key announcement reads: 'AFTAB GUL, Advocate.' But at 4 p.m., he is not in. When I call him a couple of hours later, Gul agrees to lunch the following day "I'll come and pick you up at 1.30," says the voice at the other end before hanging up.

A Honda pulls up outside 20 minutes beyond the appointed hour the next afternoon. Memories of pictures of the 1971 tour tally with the slightly metamorphosed, plumpish and the early-fortyish man walking up to the lobby. It is him, I tell myself. This is my fifth tour of Pakistan in 7 years—but our first meeting. The reason is not difficult to guess. Gul fled Pakistan in 1983 and returned only in early 1989. In the interim, he went through life incognito.

He digs into his fiery bio-data immediately. "I used to be a student leader in college," he says, "It was a great time to be young and alive. We were never short on inspiration—there were leaders like Bobby Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr and Z.A. Bhutto around. Besides, we were a product of the changing environment.

The Beatles and the Prague Spring had their effect. As I say it was a great time to be alive.

STILL ON BAIL!

I nudge him about the reference to his clout as a student leader and how he manipulated that to elbow his way into the Pakistan team. "Sadly that's not true he confesses "but I'll tell you the story behind

that impression I had scored some useful runs against the MCC in 1968-69 in a game before the Lahore Test. There was no question of my not being included for that match. Coincidentally John Woodcock of *The Times* met me before the game and asked whether I would be playing. 'I'd better be,' I replied jokingly, otherwise there won't be a Test in Lahore. But Woodcock

took me literally—and the image stayed. I tell him that he is the only man to play first-class cricket while out on bail. Gul smiles and interrupts. 'I am still on bail in fact.'

RAIDED!

And here he reveals an interesting story. 'General Zia threw Zulfikar Ali Bhutto into protective custody in

June 1977. I immediately dashed off a habeas corpus challenging Zia's decision. I argued that protective custody only be imposed on minors, people of unsound mind and crucial witnesses in an important trial—not on the democratically-elected PM of a country!'

'I suppose I paid for that. Zia's regime identified me as a potential troublemaker

Aftab Gul to seek asylum in India

By Ashis Ray

Somewhere in Britain, Aug 4. Aftab Gul, 37 year old former Test cricketer and up and coming lawyer in Lahore, is planning to apply for political asylum in India. Accused for being involved with the pro Bhutto AL Zulfikar organisation and also of harbouring two portable versions of the SAM missiles in his house, he feels there is no way he can go back to Pakistan.

While the British government is expected to be sympathetic to any request made by him for residency here, Mr Gul is inclined to settle down in India at least on a semi-permanent basis because he would feel more at home with Indians than with the British.

In a clandestine meeting with *The Telegraph* Mr Gul, who is partly in hiding from British authorities last they accede to a request by the Pakistan Embassy here to depart him, said, "The entire charge (of sedition) is a frame-up, and an attempt to link the People's Party (of Pakistan) with the AL Zulfikar group, which Begum Bhutto has publicly disowned." He explained this assertion by saying that the Zia government has been trying very hard to implicate the

People's Party with terrorist activity and, thus, create an alibi for coming down more heavily on the PPP, and discrediting it at a time when there is talk of local elections in Pakistan.

Mr Gul is known to be very close to the Bhutto family and while admitting that he is a member of the Pakistan People's Party, he pleads that he is not an activist. He has not been one since the death of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, hanged by the present rulers after being convicted for murder in April, 1979, because he believes that there is no hope for a return to democracy in Pakistan and any effort directed towards that is futile.

After levelling the charges against him, his aged parents and two brothers (one of them a colonel in the Army and the other a foreign service man) have been arrested, and the whereabouts of his 14-month old daughter are unknown to him. "Fortunately," he remarks, "my wife and my elder son and daughter were with me, so they have escaped detention." He adds, "But they (the government) have seized my house and car, sealed my bank account and impounded my wife's 'safe' as well as all movable and immovable assets." Though his first claim to fame was as an opening batsman for Pakistan between 1968 and 1971, he

catapulted into prominence as a students' leader during the unrest that led to the disruption of the MCC tour of Pakistan in 1969. Two years later at Lord's he refused to initial a bat because the proceeds of its auction was for the benefit of East Pakistani refugees in West Bengal. He explained he "couldn't help a group of people who were trying to dismember" his country.

Three years later he retired from first class cricket and returned into the limelight after the military coup in Pakistan in 1978 when he moved a petition seeking Bhutto's release from prison, which was granted before the hearing took place. Interestingly, when the murder charge against the former Prime Minister came up Mr Gul opposed it on the grounds that it was tantamount to admitting the criminal status of the case, whereas, in his opinion, the battle should have been fought at a political level.

His close association with Bhutto, as well as, perhaps, his firebrand antagonism towards the military government, deprived him of his passport for five years, and it was only in June that he was permitted to obtain fresh travel papers. The authorities were, seemingly, satisfied with his conduct though he was known to advise Begum Bhutto.

THIS ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE TELEGRAPH, CALCUTTA, ON 5 AUGUST 1983

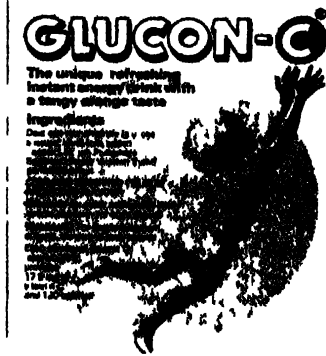
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and made life hell. I was perpetually shadowed. My passport was confiscated. Finally, I used my connections in Islamabad, managed to get it back and immediately left to see the World Cup in 1983. I must have been in England for about 3-4 days when I came across flashes in most newspapers that in a military raid on my residence in Lahore SAM 7s, surface-to-air missiles, anti-rocket launchers, kalashnikovs and bombs had been recovered. And do you know where exactly they said these things had been found? Under my bed! As if I was a fool to have stored them there.

HARRASSED!

In Gul's absence Pakistan's military searched his family out for special attention. Gul's wife and children were repeatedly interrogated, his personal possessions—the car, air conditioner, correspondence, and files, among other things—confiscated, his father was whisked off to an unknown jail, until months later, someone conveyed a message to his mother that her husband had been shifted to a hospital and was, perhaps, dying. Gul's brother who worked for the Foreign service, was picked up by the police and not seen for a year-and-a-half.

Meanwhile, Gul himself stayed plunked in London. "I couldn't work in the UK. I couldn't be given political asylum because



Aftab Gul stands third from right as Imran is introduced to the Queen on the 1971 tour

of the dangerous charges levelled against me in Pakistan, and I couldn't be extradited either because there was danger to my life in my own country. So I vegetated in England, alive and well but without a work permit. It was miserable."

An air crash in Pakistan, August 1988, decisively changed the course of Aftab Gul's career once again. An Air Force aircraft perished near Bahawalpur taking with it the lives of eleven senior ranking army men and President Zia.

Suddenly things were happening. Elections in Pakistan in November 1988 ended the role of the army and restored democracy. "This definitely meant that I could have returned right away, but I was

not wanting to take chances. I had separate sentences of 28 years each—84 in all—imposed on my head. It was only after Benazir Bhutto announced an amnesty that I could return home a free man for the first time in 5½ years. I am still a member of the PP but am more seriously pursuing my legal career and making up for the lost time.

Aftab Gul toured England in 1971 under Intikhab Alam. Away from the Tests he had a successful series emerging second in the side's tour averages. One of the members of that team of nearly 20 years ago was a certain I. Khan Niazi.

Gul's eyes light up at the very mention. "Do you know I was his first captain—I mean, I was captain of Lahore when he made it to the team. I still remember how I mentioned to the Lahore selectors that the boy had it in him to go far—and he has."

Sounds contradictory,

and I tell him. What about one line in Imran's *All-Round View* where he says that on that first tour after his disastrous opening Test at Edgbaston, he overheard Asif Iqbal and Aftab Gul wonder what the hell Imran was doing in the team?

But Gul denies the comment. "I never made it. I don't know where Imran got that in from. I even told him this on the phone in London and he shrugged it off by saying *chhor do yaar*."

A lunch later while driving back I ask him how he looks back on his 20 turbulent years in cricket and politics. "Fortunate," he answers.

And that's what I tell my children today. They belong to a cheated generation. No leaders, no heroes."

WAR!

I ask him my last question. Now that there is a new government in Delhi, do you visualise an improvement in relations between India and Pakistan? "On the contrary, I see it going worse. India has too many internal problems. It needs an external excuse to direct the attention of her people. I won't be too surprised if the two countries go to war in 6-8 weeks time."

In later January 1990, the armies on both sides of the border had been alerted to emergency preparedness as the possibility of a fourth war between India and Pakistan became a distinct possibility. From the idyll of December 1988, the subcontinent had moved into its most serious crisis in nearly 20 years.

"I couldn't be given political asylum in UK because of the dangerous charges levelled against me in Pakistan, and I couldn't be extradited because there was danger to my life in my own country."

CRICKET SMALL-TALK

FROM AROUND THE

WORLD

EXTRAS

Armchair viewers were treated to a 'wicketkeeper's-eye view' during the third Australia-Pakistan Test at Sydney, thanks to a miniature camera fixed inside the middle stump. Australian umpires, however, have given a lukewarm response to the latest idea from Channel 9, a proposal to house another mini-camera in the umpire's hat.

A new 95-camera surveillance system costing \$A 800,000, has been unveiled at the Sydney Cricket Ground, where hooliganism has been a problem in recent seasons.

Australia have declined an invitation to take part in a limited-overs tournament in Pakistan this year, saying that the competition—planned to run along similar lines to last year's Nehru Cup in India—might devalue the official World Cup, due to be held in Australia and New Zealand early in 1992. Meanwhile the Indian Board has turned down a request from West Indies to tour India next winter.

Cricket-writer Paul Weaver, of the *Today* newspaper, was expelled from South Africa after the authorities there objected to his account of a demonstration against Mike Gatting's English XI tourists.



John Arlott, for only the second time in 11 years, has been unable to write for *Wisden Cricket Monthly*. He was injured in a fall in his cellar, and entered hospital in Alderney, thence Guernsey, with cuts to the head and damage to neck and spine.

John Arlott: injured in a fall in his cellar



Richard Hadlee's feat in taking his 400th Test wicket is to be celebrated by the release of a strictly limited edition of the bronze portrait sculpted by former England wicketkeeper Keith Andrew's son Neale.

Ian Botham, who recently signed a new three-year contract with Worcestershire, scored 62 (six sixes and two fours) for his own XI against Alderney CC in a 10-overs match. Botham, who has a holiday home on the island of Alderney, has signed for local soccer team Aurigny Nomads, who play in the Guernsey Railway League.

Six former Test players—five of them former captains—have been elected honorary life members of MCC. They are Dennis Amis and Keith Fletcher (England), Deryck Murray (New Zealand), Gundappa Vishwanath (India) and Zaheer Abbas (Pakistan).

England wicketkeeper Jack Russell's training for the West Indies tour was interrupted when he was bitten by a dog while running in Bristol. One of Russell's predecessors, Bruce French, suffered a similar injury in the early stages of England's 1985-86 tour of the Caribbean.

WIDEN CRICKET MONTHLY



Gundappa Vishwanath: honorary life member of MCC

Richard Hadlee (left): a bronze portrait is to be sculpted in celebration of his 400 Test wickets

Ian Botham: to play soccer for Aurigny Nomads





Sir George 'Gubby' Allen: paid Kelly's fee himself after MCC declined to authorise the secret filming

**REVEALED:
THE 'THIRD MAN'**

CRICKET'S SECRET AGENT

Thirty years ago, illegal bowling actions posed the biggest threat to cricket's well-being. Sir George 'Gubby' Allen bravely took the initiative by seeking firm evidence of the problem. But he needed technical assistance. His approach to an administrator is public knowledge. His choice, in turn, of a 'photographic secret agent' is now revealed for the first time. JACK BANNISTER reports



It might be 30 years under the Official Secrets Act, but in cricket it can be as little as 30 minutes before special secrets are leaked. Which makes it all the more surprising that the identity of the 'Third Man' in the 1960 throwing row involving the South African fast bowler, Geoff Griffin, has only just come to light—four months short of any supposed 30-year curfew.

The recent deaths of 'Gubby' Allen and Leshe Deakins leave the third man finally willing to reveal the crucial part he played in providing the photographic evidence which helped lance the festering boil of throwing which was threatening to poison cricket at the end of the 1950s.

Ken Kelly, now 69, was the pioneer of many of the photographic techniques now used so effectively

South African Geoff Griffin's action during the 1960 Lord's Test.



by the modern cameramen, so it was unsurprising that it was to him that respected Warwickshire secretary Deakins turned when asked by Allen to commission a photographer in May 1960

The idea was that the photographer acting 'in camera' so to speak would film the suspect bowlers and to this end Allen paid the £22 necessary to hire a 16mm cinecamera which Kelly borrowed from John Turnbull who featured prominently in Midlands television at the time. Turnbull agreed to process the film the first shots of which were so revealing that Allen immediately asked for more

Fred Trueman: no doubts about his classical bowling action



In the book *Gubby Allen—Man of Cricket* (Hutchinson, 1985), E W Swanton wrote 'In his capacity as chairman of the MCC cricket sub-committee, Gubby was very much on the warpath against illegal actions, and if ever there was a blatant case it was that of Griffin, who had twice been noballed in South Africa. In the MCC-South Africans match at Lord's in May, Gubby and Wilf Wooller went

It would be no surprise if a film of Tony Lock's action was among those in the 'Rogues Gallery' at Lord's. Lock was called for throwing in four different matches, one of them a Test in West Indies in 1953-54.



around Lord's looking at him from every angle

'The bowlers I filmed in the first Test at Edgbaston', says Kelly, 'were Griffin, Adcock and Goddard from South Africa, and Statham, Trueman and Dexter from England

How did Kelly manage to maintain secrecy while he was filming?

'I remember always wearing a raincoat in the middle of summer to hide the cinecamera, and I did many of the sequences from inside the scoreboards at Edgbaston working through various noles, and I also did work at Worcester, Old Trafford, Headingley and The Oval, where I went ostensibly as a stills cameraman

'I shot thousands of feet of film

including some fair actions for comparison purposes such as Fred Trueman and Brian Statham, and I found it immensely satisfying that the results were so successful. Many officials had previously not had the courage of their convictions, but my films and the splendid use Gubby made of them at ICC level backed up the man at the sharp end, the umpire."

Swanton wrote 'By the time of the Lord's Test Gubby had his evidence, which amply supported the six umpires who, between them, had already no-balled Griffin 17 times in the three matches. At Lord's he was no-balled 11 times, whereupon it was announced he would not bowl again on the tour

After Geoff Chubb and Dudley Nourse, the president of the South African Cricket Association and the manager respectively declined to see the film, Gubby presented it to Lord's, where it now reposes with a number of subsequent shots of suspect actions in what he called 'The Rogues' Gallery

'By mid-July Swanton wrote 'England with victories in the first three Tests had the rubber well and truly won, and the chairman could devote himself to the throwing dispute which was due to make this the most momentous of all ICC meetings before the intervention in cricket affairs of Kerry Packer

Kelly later filmed other suspected throwers, and although he is still reluctant to name other subjects, it would be surprising if they did not include Surrey bowlers Tony Lock and Peter Loader

Ken Kelly's complete integrity and dogged adherence to principles stem from the game he has loved all his life. Is it cricket? is the short question he asks himself about any difficult matter

It is typical of the man, now in the twilight of a wonderful professional career as a photographer, that he should have revealed his part in such an historic operation so long after the event, when an earlier revelation would surely have brought financial reward

This man is a well enough known position in cricket. But now Harry Lime, Sir Anthony Blunt, and Ken Kelly

Wisden Cricket Monthly

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. "When you win the toss, decide to bat. If in doubt, think hard and elect to bat". Who said this?
2. Which is the only men's double pair to achieve the Grand Slam in Tennis?
3. Which winner of the women's javelin event was so humiliated at finishing only fifth in the next Olympics that she shaved off all her hair and refused to wear a scarf to hide her shame?
4. Which famous Olympic gold decathlete married a former girl-friend of Elvis Presley?
5. Which New Zealand Test cricketer died of wounds sustained in WW II?
6. Which Australian Cricket captain was seen reading a newspaper while fielding in the long field in a Test match against England?
7. Which Olympic sprint champion was coached by his wife?
8. Yuri Gagarin, the world's first space-man, was fond of a particular game. In his school days, he was the captain of his school team in respect of that game. What was it?
9. Who is the only batsman to score double centuries

against all the countries against whom he played in Tests?

10. Who is the only Olympic medallist to have won the Noble Prize?

11. Which great Indian statesman used to remark: "why don't they (India) play their second innings first? If they do it, they will win"?

12. Which is the greatest free show in sport?

13. A former Indian Test cricketer demanded in 1979 that a commemorative stamp be brought out in honour of one whom he regarded as "the greatest among Indian cricketers". Identify the two.

14. Who are the only players to have scored in two World Cup soccer finals?

15. Who said the following and when? — "what is one million US dollars compared to the love of eight million Cubans?"

16. Which former US President was in his youth a college football player?

17. The late heavyweight boxing champion was so fond of enjoying TV shows that his wife kept TV sets in eight rooms out of their ten? Who was he?

18. Which national record-holder of India turned bandit and was shot dead by police in a gun battle?

RATING TEST!

Above 15: Wish you were part of our quiz team.
Between 12 and 15: You are not too bad.
Between 8 and 11: There is room for improvement.
Below 8: Sportsworld reading recommended.

ANSWERS

1. Sir Don Bradman.
2. Frank Sedgeman and Ken McGregor (Australia) in 1951.
3. Elvira Ozoline (USSR) who won in Rome, but slipped to fifth place in Tokyo.
4. Bruce Jenner, the 1976 Montreal decathlon gold medallist. He married Linda Thompson.
5. D.A.R. Moloney, who played 8 Tests in 1937, died of wounds at El Alamein in 1942.
6. W.W. Armstrong, in the Fifth and final Test against England in 1935-36.
7. Alan Watts of Great Britain, the 100m gold medallist in the 1950 Moscow Olympics.
8. Basketball.
9. Sir Don Bradman, who scored double centuries against England, South Africa, West Indies and India.
10. Philip J. Noel-Baker, who had won the 1,500m silver at Philip J. Baker.
11. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
12. The Tour De France cycle race.
13. Murtaza Ali. C.K. Nayudu.
14. Vava (Brazil) twice against Sweden in 1958 and once against Czechoslovakia in 1962. Pale (Brazil) twice against Sweden in 1956 and once against Italy in 1970. Paul Breitner (West Germany) once against Holland in 1974 and once against Italy in 1982.
15. Teofilo Stevenson, the three-time Cuban Olympic heavy-weight champion (boxing), when he was offered more than US one million dollars to fight various American professional boxers.
16. Gerald Ford.
17. Joe Louis.
18. Pan Singh, who set records in 1960 at 3000m steeplechase (8:53.4) and 5,000m (14:37.2). He was shot dead near Gwalior on October 4, 1961.

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ IS CONTRIBUTED BY:

Rongsen Jamir
C/o Tim Jamir
Directorate of Health and
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The Umpire Strikes Back



THERE was minimal outrage over John McEnroe's default from the Australian Open, in fact, whatever there was came from a partisan public. The media and a host of players justified the

In January, McEnroe was defaulted from the Australian Open. In February, Becker was nearly defaulted from the Stuttgart Classic. Question is: are the umpires beginning to suffocate the sport?

default almost gleefully, insisting that McBrat had gone too far just once too often. The role of the umpire in this ugly, historic event was scarcely debated either, the reasoning here being that McEnroe had left him no option. That was not perfectly

true—Gerry Armstrong had indicted McEnroe for 'unsportsmanlike conduct' for staring at a lineswoman which arguably was an overreaction. A poor interpretation of the rules.

McEnroe's belief that he was a victim of sorts and Pat Cash's subsequent outburst concerning the eroding of characters from the sport went largely unnoticed. And then, just as the issue looked dead and gone, Boris Becker opened the coffin and revived the corpse. For Becker's confrontation with umpire Richard Ings at the Stuttgart Classic provided further evidence that the umpire is becoming more of a participant rather than an observer. He is forcing the players to work within extremely tight guidelines, where any display of emotion—anger to despair—calls for censure and admonishment.

Becker, who came within one violation of being defaulted, was furious and accused Ings as not having the guts to disqualify him. Becker's rage notwithstanding, Ings' rulings were mystifying.

Playing Brod Dyke, whom he eventually beat 7-6, 6-4, Becker began badly. After five abysmal games, he chipped a ball over the netting surrounding the court only for Ings to pounce and warn him for 'ball abuse'. Becker was stupefied and cried, "But it wasn't in anger (probably frustration) I didn't hurt anybody

The role of the umpire in the McEnroe default was scarcely debated, the reasoning being that McEnroe had left him no option. That was not perfectly true...

What are you doing this for?"

Ings, unfazed and unimpressed, continued now by docking Becker a penalty point for 'unsportsmanlike behaviour'.

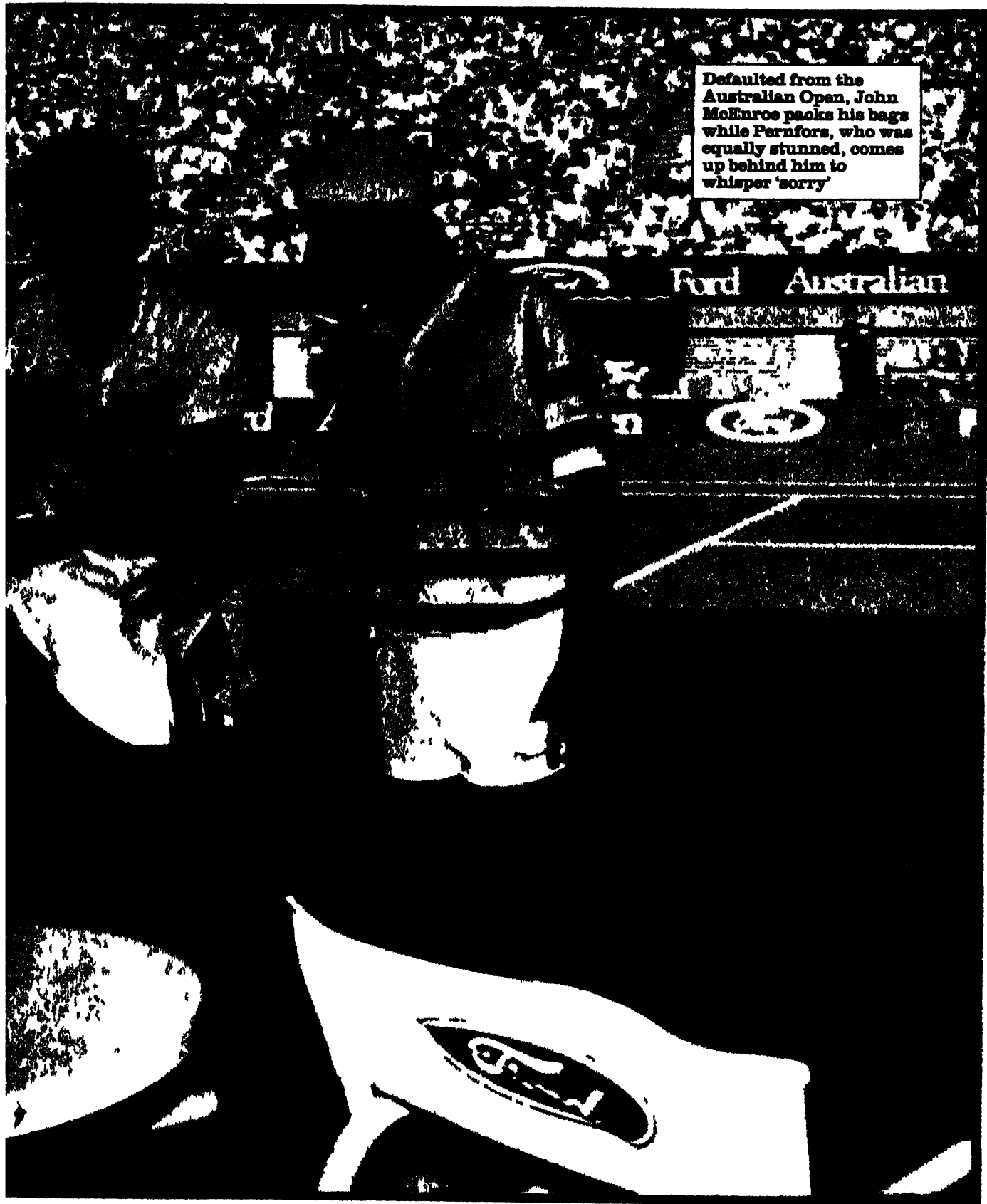
Although doubtful, if there was suitable explanation for Ings' ruling, in the light of his earlier decisions there was certainly none for his subsequent inaction. Down 0-40 in the first game of the second set, Becker smashed his racket on to the surface but Ings, the great bear in the chair, this time did not even a bat an eyelid. Had he, Becker would have been defaulted. Inexplicable, and the reason why Becker labelled him 'gutless'.

(Obtuse though it may sound, McEnroe may be livid that Becker wasn't defaulted. Not that he doesn't like the German, but Ings's refusal to

Barring skill, tennis's excitement lies with its variety of competitors. To snuff out 'the characters' as Cash accused would render the game impotent.



TOMMY HINDLEY



Defaulted from the Australian Open, John McEnroe packs his bags while Renshaw, who was equally stunned, comes up behind him to whisper 'sorry'

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punish Becker for racket abuse could strengthen Mac's belief that he is being victimised.)

Becker and his manager Ion Tiriac were displeased really with the first code violation. Said Becker: "I asked the umpire what he'd given it for and then he gives me a point penalty. I didn't mind then if I'd been defaulted, I didn't care. Then he didn't have the guts to default me". Tiriac put it in better perspective when he said, "It was uncalled for and generated all the problems that came after".

One of the tenets of umpiring is not getting into arguments with players—this, however, is often unavoidable. But if umpires are intent on imposing themselves on the match, and too quick to assert their authority, situations can go out of control very fast.

Ings is a respected, competent and highly experienced umpire—factors which make his actions all the more astonishing. He knows only too well that in a competitively charged atmosphere, frustration, rage, disgust are natural by-products of the sport.





Players have their own levels of control, their own range of exhibited emotions—Ings just cannot judge an impassive Lendl, a moody Becker and a tempestuous McEnroe by the same standards. Allowances to a certain extent, for the human variable have to be made.

Furthermore the umpire must not construct an environment where the player feels threatened where each gesture or movement, however miniscule it may be, is pontificated on and judged ponderously. If the game is bigger than the players, it is even bigger than the umpire.

Barring skill, tennis' excitement lies with its variety of competitors

...the judgement calls, no doubt, place an enormous responsibility on the umpire

To snuff out 'the characters' as Cash accused, would render the game impotent and robotic. Certainly the players must respect the rules and the fact that there are limitations on their freedoms to express themselves. But the umpire must realise the player is entitled to some freedoms of expression too.

Perhaps the rules themselves require a honest review.

The reduction of the four step rule (warning,

point penalty, game penalty, default) to the three step rule (warning, point penalty, default) that was approved by the ATP for their new 1990 tour made little sense, and serves as a warning a threat, to players and nothing else. Barring McEnroe really, no one else had stretched the rules to the utmost.

"Unsportsmanlike behaviour" is a matter of judgement—there are no fixed parameters for this "Racket abuse, ball abuse (any other) equipment abuse" is also a judgement call. (But there is a catch here. If X hurls his racket to the ground, the umpire can ignore it. If Y hurls his racket to the ground—and it

cracks—he gets an automatic point penalty. So, had Becker's racket cracked, he would have been defaulted. Wooden rackets will crack faster than metal rackets, and metal perhaps faster than graphite. The same with old and new rackets. So hypothetically, racket material and racket age in a sense could decide a default. A wild charge? Perhaps not.)

The judgement calls, no doubt, place an enormous responsibility on the umpire's shoulders—but if six umpires have six different interpretations for the rules, they must realise that six players will have six different reactions to a line call, a bad shot, poor form. If umpires continue to nit pick and be as trigger happy as Ings, subsequent confrontations will reduce the game to farcical levels.

The Becker incident will strike a stronger chord worldwide because, as opposed to McEnroe who was the 'exception' (always poorly behaved), the West German is a 'normal' guy, very rarely unruly. If he can be hassled and hauled up for nearly nothing, the rest will fear that too. And if so, then the umpire is creating a dreadful atmosphere for honest competition.

In treating Boris Becker almost as if he were a churlish schoolboy, Richard Ings took on the role of an authoritarian schoolmaster. But he isn't. No, he is at best supposed to be an invigilator of sorts.

Robert Brijnath

THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY!



A motley crew
of Englishmen
take on a
full-strength
West Indian
outfit...and
come out
winners!

THINGS sure have come a long way since Sonny Ramadhin and Alf Valentine ensnared England in a web of spin one afternoon in June 1950 at Lord's. Routed in the first Test of the series—at Old Trafford, by 202 runs—the West Indies had come into the Lord's Test with plenty to prove. Clyde Walcott smashed a swashbuckling unbeaten 168, but it was the two slightly-built spinners, Ramadhin and Valentine, who wreaked havoc among the English batsmen and sent them crashing to a humiliating 326-run defeat. The two spinners took 18 of the 20 English wickets to fall...and, in the process, gave their country its first-ever Test win in England.

Much has changed since then. The West Indies gradually shifted their focus to sheer pace and subsequently dominated international cricket. England on the other hand, have

Angus Fraser did the initial damage with the ball

PHOTOGRAPH BY PATRICK EVAN

undergone a gradual metamorphosis from the all-conquering side to a motley crew of also-rans. Test victories for the West Indies, at home and elsewhere in the cricket-playing world, became commonplace while England struggled to retain some vestige of pride whenever visitors came calling.

When England took on West Indies at Sabina Park, Kingston, Jamaica in the opening Test of their 1990 tour of the Caribbean, hardly anyone expected much of a change in the script that has dominated England-West Indies contests of late. After all, this was the same England that had just one win to show from their last 25 Tests; and had lost 14 of their last 15 Tests played against West Indies.

This was an England rocked by a large-scale exodus to South Africa; now desperate for remedies and rehabilitation. In fact, nine of the Englishmen together could put together less than 50 Test caps. On the other hand, nine of the West Indian (and the two being left out are none less than Viv Richards and Gordon Greenidge) can boast well over 300 Test caps. This was an England whose pace quartet had just 46 scalps tucked under their belts from 21 Tests. And their counterparts in the West Indian team had 523 victims from their 121 Tests. One, obviously, couldn't be blamed if much was not expected from England. Even the £160,000 offered by Yorkshire Breweries if

England won the series seemed safe.

But it was not to be. England, spearheaded by a five-wicket haul by paceman Angus Fraser, bundled out the West Indies for a mere 164 in their first innings, their lowest total against England since Headingley 1969 when they managed just 161. Then, with Allan Lamb showing the way with a stellar 132, they scored 364 for a commanding

uncharacteristic Sabina Park pitch.

The primary reason for this defeat was surely the arrogance and over-confidence that the West Indians went into the match with. Having dominated Test cricket against England in the recent past—the last time they lost a Test to England was way back in 1974 at Trinidad—the West Indian players must

and literally threw away their wickets. Even the feared West Indian pace attack wilted on an unresponsive pitch and settled into a defensive groove that helped England break free of their psychological shackles. That a bowler like Malcolm Marshall could operate with just two slips from the very start exhibits the levels of defensiveness they resorted to.

England, on the other



200-run first innings lead, and shot the West Indies out again for 240 and rounded off a well-deserved nine-wicket win. Their first Test victory at Sabina Park since the one in 1954.

Looking back at this highly improbable English win, one can outline three factors that contributed: the West Indian arrogance, the English 'nothing to lose' attitude, and the

Geech led brilliantly, outthinking the opposition every step of the way

have been under the impression that they were simply too good for the opposition. Indeed, they were...but only on paper. Most of their leading batsmen, skipper Viv Richards being the prime culprit, played highly irresponsible innings

hand, came into this Test with nothing to lose. They had lost half their team to the South African Rand. And, on recent form, were not expected to go around upsetting any apple-carts. Least of all, the West Indian one.

But the pace bowlers threw themselves into the fray with gusto. Probably determined to show their more illustrious counterparts a thing or two,



Gladstone Small, Angus Fraser, Devon Malcolm and David Capel compensated for whatever they lacked by way of blinding pace with nagging accuracy and came out winners. Of course, a couple of overambitious pulls—from outside the off stump—by Viv Richards and Carl Hooper certainly helped. Then Lamb showed that the West Indian pacemen could be tamed as he took full advantage of a Dujon let-off to score a century. Due for a big score at the highest level of the game, Lamb's knock just reinforced the law of averages. If you are

truly talented, and Lamb surely is, it's only a matter of time before the ball starts rolling your way.

However, one shouldn't take away from the professional approach displayed by the Englishmen. All of them played well within their own limitations...and to a well-thought out plan. Images of a fully kitted out Jack Russell, ducking and weaving like a boxer as a teammate lobbed balls, underarm, at his head and shoulders told of a well-planned strategy to combat the West Indian pace attack. The bowlers, realising that their West Indian opponents were prone to indiscretion, concentrated on keeping the ball on the stumps

and allowed the West Indian batsmen to do the rest. And the man in charge, Graham Gooch, marshalled his forces commendably. As the West Indian manager Clive Lloyd put it: "We have batted badly, getting out to some injudicious shots. But England forced the errors by bowling such a good line. I was also very impressed by Gooch and his tactics. He had done his homework on each of our batsmen and knew what fields to set. It was a highly professional effort."

And finally the pitch. Known as a kicker of a pitch—it was here that Mike Gatting had his facial features rearranged by Marshall in 1987—the 1990's Sabina Park proffered a

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strip of hardly any bounce. Even though the odd one did rear up—Ian Bishop's lifter that eventually carried to Best had Alec Stewart thanking his stars that it thudded into his glove and not his face—the majority of the balls tended to keep low. If anything, the batsmen were in trouble digging out the shooters.

Not surprisingly, the West Indian pace quartet lost heart as they saw the best of their efforts harmlessly skidding past the batsman at knee height. Claiming the pitch to be inadequately prepared, they tucked their tails between their legs and resorted to defensive manoeuvres. But this act didn't fool Lamb who remarked "when they get a wicket they can



The West Indian pacemen, especially Marshall, were too defensive

suddenly double the pace—we've seen it so often. But when you get on top of them, their heads go down quite quickly."

Whatever be the reason for this turnabout in English fortunes, it had come at a time when it is sorely required. Handing Viv Richards his first defeat as captain at home will give English cricket the shot in the arm it so desperately requires. Moreover it will enliven the series. The mighty West Indies, one down, at home. Maybe that Yorkshire Breweries money isn't so safe after all!

A Correspondent

To: Sportsworld, Ananda Bazar Patrika Ltd, 6 Prafulla Sarkar Street, Calcutta 700 001

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Preliminaries: April 5, 6 Finals: April 7

Venue: Dalhousie Institute

Draw to be published on April 1, 2

Last date for entries: March 19

Open to: mercantile firms, schools and colleges

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RED STRIPE CUP

Going Leewards!

A round-up of the first class Caribbean domestic season

IN winning the 1990 Red Stripe Cup, the Leewards dominated from the very start of the West Indies season, and unlike the 1989 season, when three countries had a chance of winning as the last round started, the Leewards were almost certain of victory at the end of the third round.

In their opening match against Barbados at Kensington Oval they

lost their captain, Viv Richards, with a broken finger on the first day, and he only returned to the side for their last match against Jamaica, after Richardson had done an excellent job as substitute.

Despite a fighting, undefeated 77 by Franklyn Stephenson, Barbados were all out for 185, and good allround batting saw Leewards to a useful



PATRICK EAGAR

new skipper's haul of 11 wickets for 124 runs as they did the trick for Trinidad and Tobago against Jamaica

first-innings score of 325. Barbados did marginally better in their second innings, scoring 262, with Ambrose taking 4 for 55. Leewards, needing 112 for victory, won by seven wickets.

In their next game, against Guyana in St Kitts on a pitch which

Leeward Island's promising 18-year-old allrounder Hamesh Anthony: tipped for Test stardom in the future

fell short of first-class quality, the Leewards won in a low-scoring contest. Richardson carved out 125 not out as the Leewards fell for 245, but Guyana could make only 129 in reply as Kenneth Benjamin took 3 for 33 and new cap Hamesh Anthony 3 for 19. Runs were scarce when the Leewards built on their useful lead, and they made only 212.

RED STRIPE CUP

First Innings	P	W	D	L	A	Pts
Leeward Islands	5	5	0	0	0	80
Barbados	5	3	1	1	0	52
Jamaica	5	1	1	1	2	37
Windward Islands	5	1	1	2	1	24
Guyana	5	0	1	2	2	18
Trinidad & Tobago	5	0	1	3	1	9

with Lynden Joseph, fresh from success in Zimbabwe, picking up 4 for 67. Leewards, with only 82 left for victory, won by eight wickets.

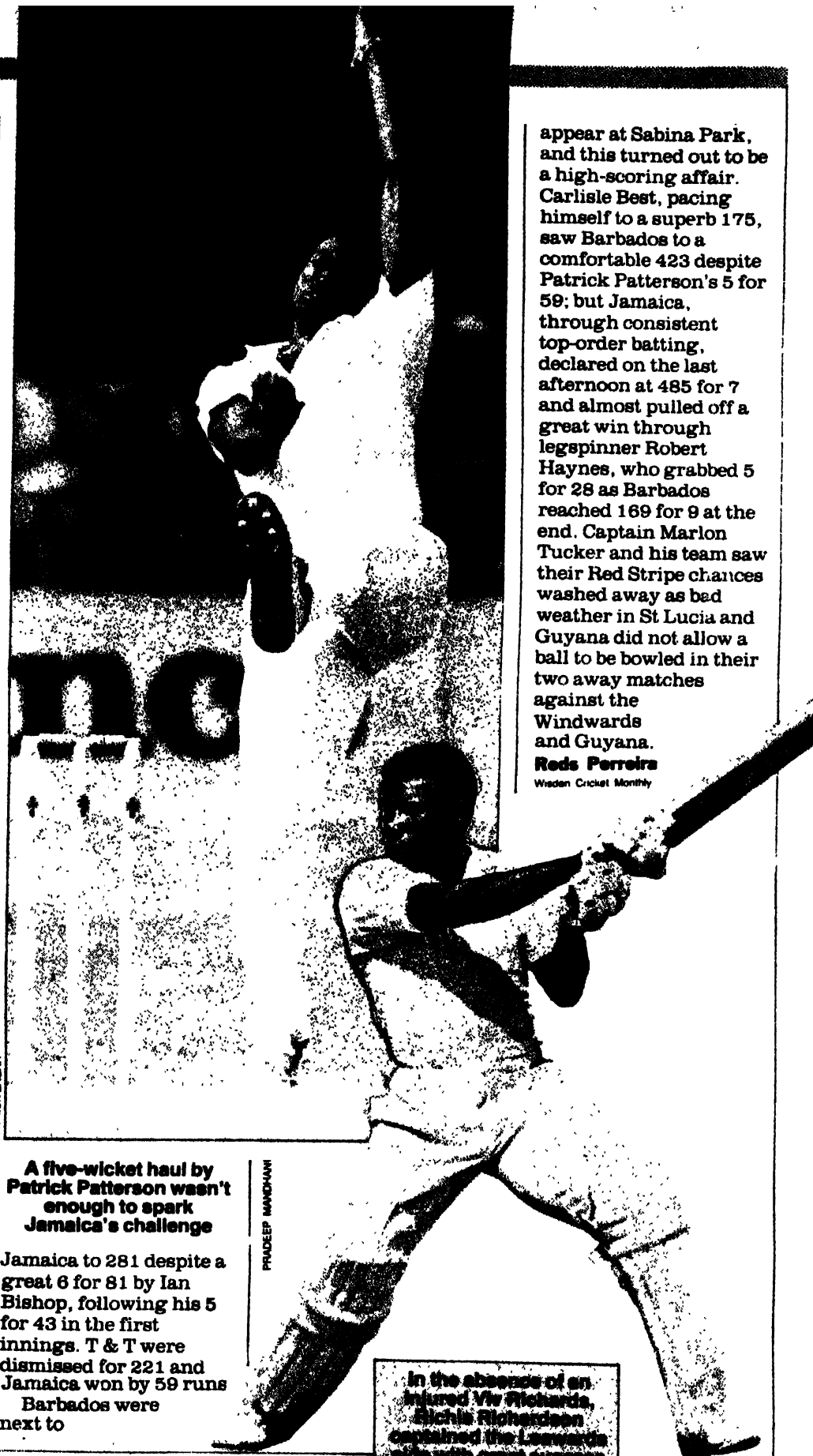
The new champions found the wicket no better at Guaracara Park, in South Trinidad, but were lucky to bowl first, and dismissed Trinidad for 88 as Kenneth Benjamin took 3 for 22. Leewards replied with 145 thanks to a superb 77 not out by their wicketkeeper Livingston Harris. Offspinner Noel Guishard then spun out the home country, taking 5 for 24, and the Leewards, in chasing a target of 134, won by eight wickets.

In familiar conditions in Antigua, the Leewards dismissed the Windwards for 257 and then recorded the highest score of the competition (526) through centuries by Richardson, Arthurton and new cap Stuart Williams. Despite a brave innings of 66 by Middlesex's Neil Williams, who was forced to retire hurt with a broken hand, the Windwards mustered only 254 and lost by an innings.

Defending champions Jamaica had no luck with the weather in the Eastern Caribbean after gaining early points in their two home matches. In their opening game they were led by Trinidad & Tobago on first innings after they had recorded 203. Trinidad & Tobago replied with 205, but an excellent 108 by West Indies B team batsman Jimmy Adams saw

appear at Sabina Park, and this turned out to be a high-scoring affair. Carlisle Best, pacing himself to a superb 175, saw Barbados to a comfortable 423 despite Patrick Patterson's 5 for 59; but Jamaica, through consistent top-order batting, declared on the last afternoon at 485 for 7 and almost pulled off a great win through legspinner Robert Haynes, who grabbed 5 for 28 as Barbados reached 169 for 9 at the end. Captain Marlon Tucker and his team saw their Red Stripe chances washed away as bad weather in St Lucia and Guyana did not allow a ball to be bowled in their two away matches against the Windwards and Guyana.

Reds Perreira
Widen Cricket Monthly



PATRICK EAGAR

PRADIP MANDHAN

A five-wicket haul by Patrick Patterson wasn't enough to spark Jamaica's challenge

Jamaica to 281 despite a great 6 for 81 by Ian Bishop, following his 5 for 43 in the first innings. T & T were dismissed for 221 and Jamaica won by 59 runs

Barbados were next to

In the absence of an injured Viv Richards, Richie Richardson captained the Leewards side with great success

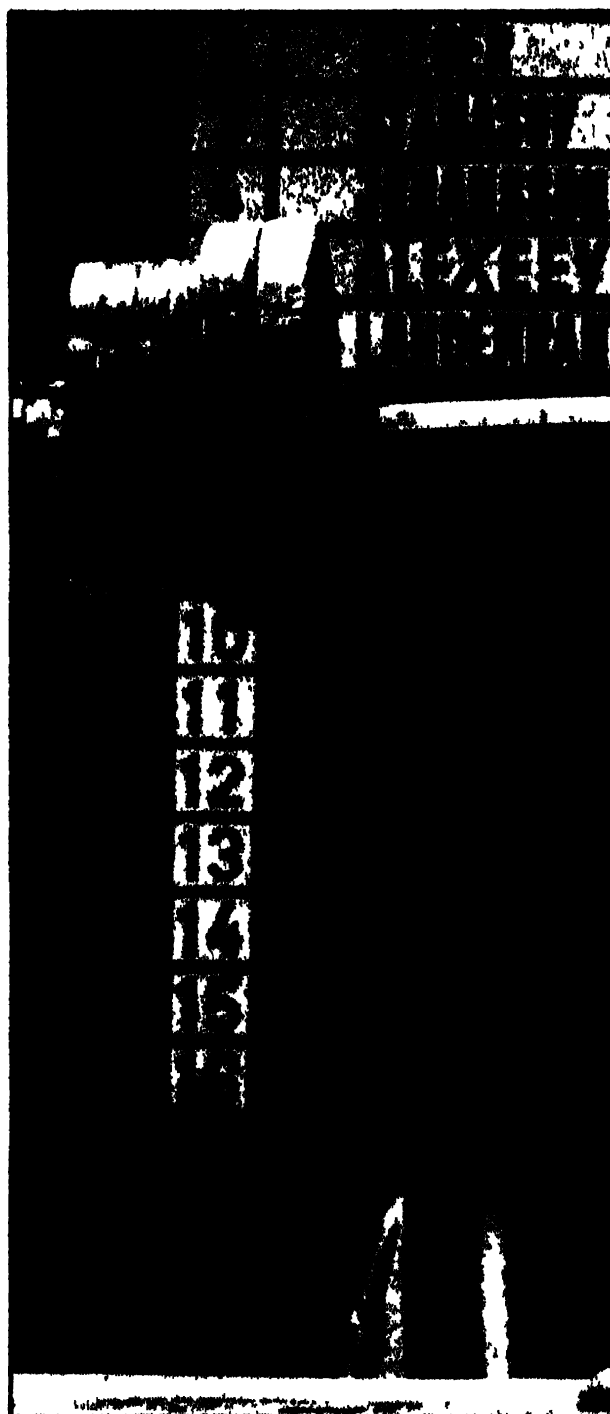
5 SECRETS TO SOVIET SUCCESS

BY NELSON FENA

EVERY four years when the Soviets leave the Olympics with their baggage full of medals—about 29 per cent more than Americans at last count—you hear the same excuses: *They're really pros, they're trained from birth, they're on steroids.*

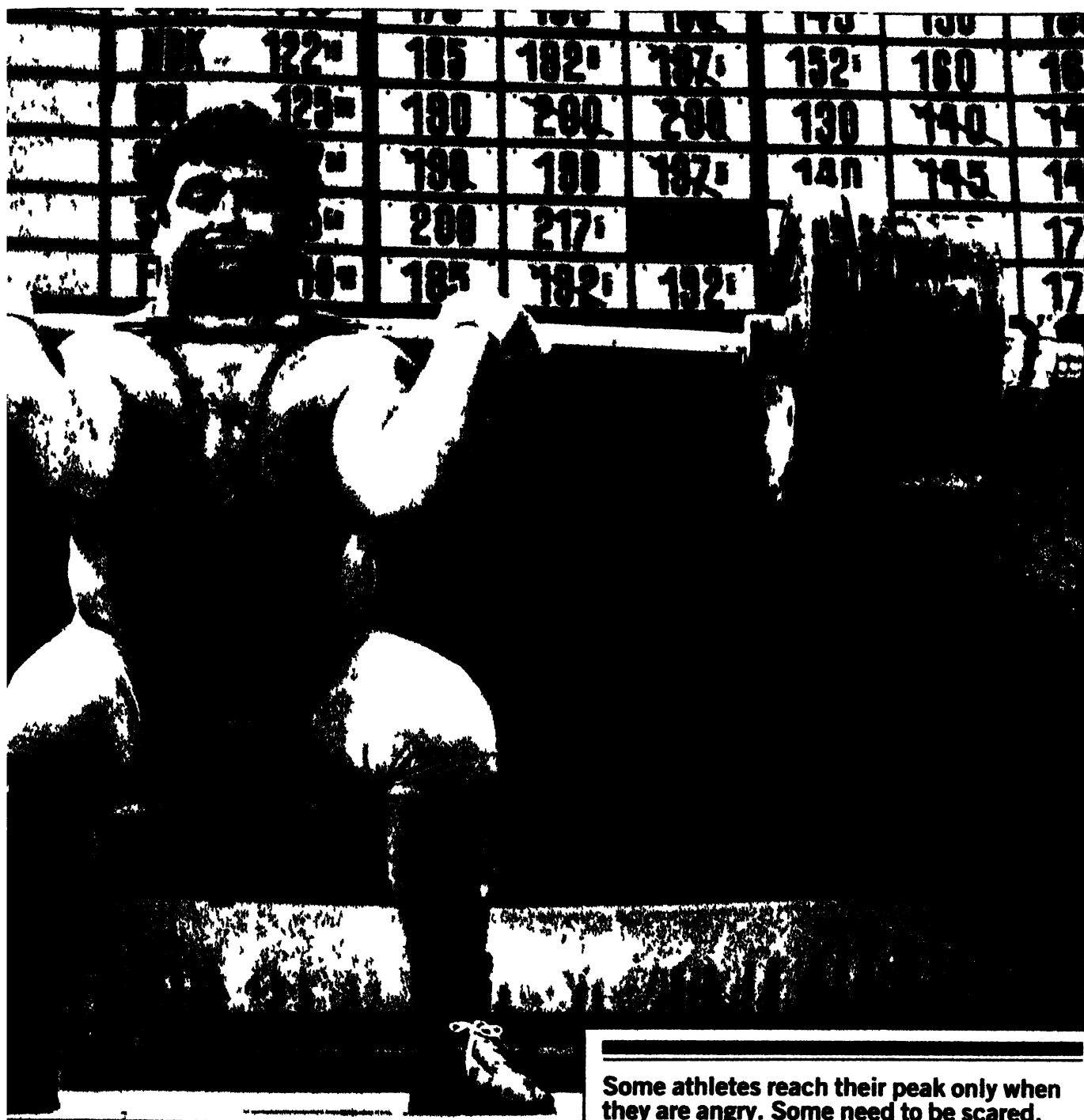
Maybe there's some truth to those arguments, but they also serve to obscure the fact that when it comes to athletic training, the Russians have sprinted ahead of the rest of the world. Soviet judo competitors sharpen their skill by practising against remote-control robots. Endurance athletes renew their strength with hypnotic naps. And Soviet scientists are perfecting weight machines that can duplicate the exact motions required in specific sports.

"Considering their training advantage, I'm surprised we even do as well as we do," says Ed Burke, Ph.D., former director of the U.S. Cycling Federation's Center for Science, Medicine, and Technology. "We conduct a lot of research in this country, but they're far ahead of us when it



comes to applying the information."

Many of the Soviets' training techniques, according to some American experts, were "borrowed" from research that originated in other countries. But even if the ideas once belonged to others, the Russians plucked them out of obscurity and refined them to the point where they can be put to use, systematically, on all their athletes. We live in a country founded on



individuality, we're not about to enforce such uniform, systematic training methods on our Olympic contenders. So the Soviets get the gold, and the credit for the concepts.

But as details of Soviet sports training emerge, the U.S. is beginning to take notice. While American experts dismiss a few of the Soviet approaches as the sports equivalent of voodoo, many elite coaches and athletes are adopting

Some athletes reach their peak only when they are angry. Some need to be scared. Others exhibit subtle physical symptoms that signal their peak. Vasily Alexeyev, the former Soviet Olympic champion weightlifter, always felt a tingling in his jaw when he was inspired. Eventually, he was able to initiate the tingling using mental techniques.

modified versions of others. Michael Yessis, Ph.D., editor of the American journal *Soviet Sports Review* and a frequent visitor to Russia, points out five training concepts from the Olympic superpower that he thinks may be valuable.

1) CONTROLLED EXPLOSIONS

Nowhere is the Soviet edge more obvious than in the area of strength training. "It took years for Americans to realize that you have to lift weights



Danis Kula, USSR's 1980 Olympic javelin champion

to get stronger," Yessis says. "When we do catch on, we go overboard. There are linemen who can bench press 500 or 600 pounds but who move like tortoises."

Since most strength training techniques tend to undermine an athlete's quickness, Soviet researchers developed a technique called

plyometrics. It is a form of exercise that pits the body's weight against gravity to develop explosive strength—the ability to jump or push off from a standstill.

The best known plyometric exercise is the depth jump, in which athletes jump off a surface 12 to 40 inches off the ground and land on both feet with their knees bent and back straight, then immediately leap straight up as high as possible. The exercises help athletes develop an explosive power that can slice seconds off a sprint or add inches to leaping ability.

The Soviets apply the same principle to the upper body using "armdepth jumps," push ups that alternate between a platform and the ground. Athletes assume a push up position but with their hands on a platform elevated 12 to 20 inches off the ground. They push up from the platform, let their hands hit the floor, then push off as quickly as possible so their hands land back on the platform.

The technique works, but not everyone is jumping up and down over it. Two recent Dutch

Every four years when the Soviets leave the Olympics with their baggage full of medals you hear the same excuses: "They're really pros; they're trained from birth; they're on steroids". Maybe there is some truth to these arguments, but they also serve to obscure the fact that when it comes to athletic training the Russians have sprinted ahead of the rest.

studies found that high depth jumping can damage ligaments and bone. The researchers say the safest, most effective level for depth jumps is 8 to 12 inches. We'll add that these are exercises for experienced athletes working with professional trainers; weekend athletes would be well advised to stick to more traditional training methods.

2) PLANNED PEAKS

American workout routines tend to be just that—routine. "When you do the same things over and over, it's no challenge to the body," says Stephen Grabe, M.S., an exercise physiologist who uses the Soviet concept of "periodization" when coaching cyclists and weight lifters.

Periodization is supposed to prime an athlete to perform at his peak in time for a big event by bucking routine and strategically posing new challenges to his body. Russian athletes divide their workout schedules into four specific stages: preparation, specialization, competition and transition. The Soviets apply these stages to training for a specific event or for a whole career,

so each stage can stretch from a few weeks before a competition to years.

In the preparation stage, a Soviet cyclist, for example, might spend a week playing soccer, another playing basketball, cross-training in ways that complement his main sport. In the specialized stage, he focuses exclusively on his own sport and schedules more rest days than in earlier stages, cutting down on taxing workouts so he can be at his best for competition. In the competitive stage, he concentrates on strategy and turns his attention to refining his technique. Game day comes during this stage. In the transitional stage after the competition, the athlete takes it easy. He doesn't become sedentary, but he doesn't keep a specific training schedule, either. This is the period that keeps Soviet athletes from burning out.

Soviet coaches take periodization to its extreme in planning a youngster's career. For instance, they believe it takes 9 to 12 years to develop an Olympic volleyball player. So, according to Yessis, when a player is between the ages of 10 and 15, the coach maps out his entire athletic career using the four stages—only in this case

Soviet judo competitors sharpen their skill by training against remote-control robots. Endurance athletes renew their strength with hypnotic naps. And Soviet scientists are perfecting weight machines that can duplicate the exact motions required in specific sports

the stages are extended from weeks to years. In many cases, the young Olympian peaks while the world watches.

3) SHARP FOCUS

Americans call it being "in a groove." In the USSR it's known by a more formal name: "The State of Optimal Functioning." Either way, it means the same thing, and finding it is what athletic training is all about.

Not surprisingly, the Soviet approach is scientific and systematic. Its intricacies were revealed by Grigori Raiport, M.D., Ph.D., a former motivational psychologist for the Soviet Olympic team who defected to the US in 1977.

Apparently, Soviet athletes attend a sports-psychology program for six months, then practise what they've learned for 10 to 15 minutes a day for the rest of their careers. The goal: to call up that athletic groove on demand. The how: knowing exactly what it feels like to be at one's best and using mental techniques to replicate this feeling for the next competition.

Some athletes reach their peak only when they're angry. Some need to be scared. Others

exhibit subtle physical symptoms that signal their peak. Vasily Alexeyev, the former Soviet Olympic champion weight lifter, always felt a tingling in his jaw when he was inspired. Eventually, he was able to initiate the tingling using mental techniques.

In any event, the Soviets say success comes to people who can consciously select what to absorb into their minds and what to ignore. To develop that power, their athletes practise by doing things like turning on two radios set to different



stations, each with a person talking at the same volume. The athlete focuses on listening to one of the voices and tries to remain oblivious to the other. He then switches his attention to the other voice, then back again. By doing this just five minutes a day for a week, he may enhance his ability to screen out distractions, and in time, he

may even be able to switch from one to the other at the snap of a finger

But even superior mind control can be compromised by stress. Soviet research indicates that one-third of all athletes perform below their potential due to stress. So Soviet jocks perform mental exercises at the beginning and end of each day to enhance performance and reduce anxiety.

The most common form is visualization, in which the athlete visualizes himself performing an activity perfectly again and again. The Soviets know that just thinking about a movement fires the same neural connections as actually performing the motion.

Of course, visualization is becoming a fairly widespread sports-training technique in the U.S. too. But interestingly, Americans—forever influenced by television—often make a crucial mistake when adopting this concept. We tend to visualize in slow motion rather than full speed.

4) DUPLICATION

Unlike the United States, where much of an athlete's time is spent on general fitness training, the Soviets try to make all their workouts apply directly to their sport. Cross training mainly to avoid burnout.

"The whole concept of specificity has yet to hit the United States on a broad scale," Yessis says. "But it's an absolutely basic part of the Soviet system."

The Soviets have learned a lot about sport-specific motion by perfecting the art of biomechanical analysis, studying how an athlete's body moves without actually interfering with the movements. They have developed the most advanced electronic measurement techniques in the world. These devices have enabled them to construct a number of intriguing training aids, like robotic training partners for fencers, judoists and wrestlers. These leather-covered radio-controlled robots with computer innards can be programmed to spar with an athlete in training, the perfect opponent, programmed by a coach to provoke all the right moves.

Yessis points out that when American athletes train with weights for sport-specific movement, they often do so in unproductive ways. For example, quarterbacks in the U.S. usually do cable-pull exercises with the arm in an "L" shape: upper arm in line with the shoulder and the lower arm at a right angle to the ground, pointing toward the ceiling. But the Soviets have analyzed the biomechanics of throwing and found that the power required for passing is actually needed earlier in the motion, when the arm is cocked all the way back, almost parallel to the ground. By starting the exercise when the arm position is already midway through the throwing motion, Americans concentrate almost exclusively on strengthening the follow-through rather than

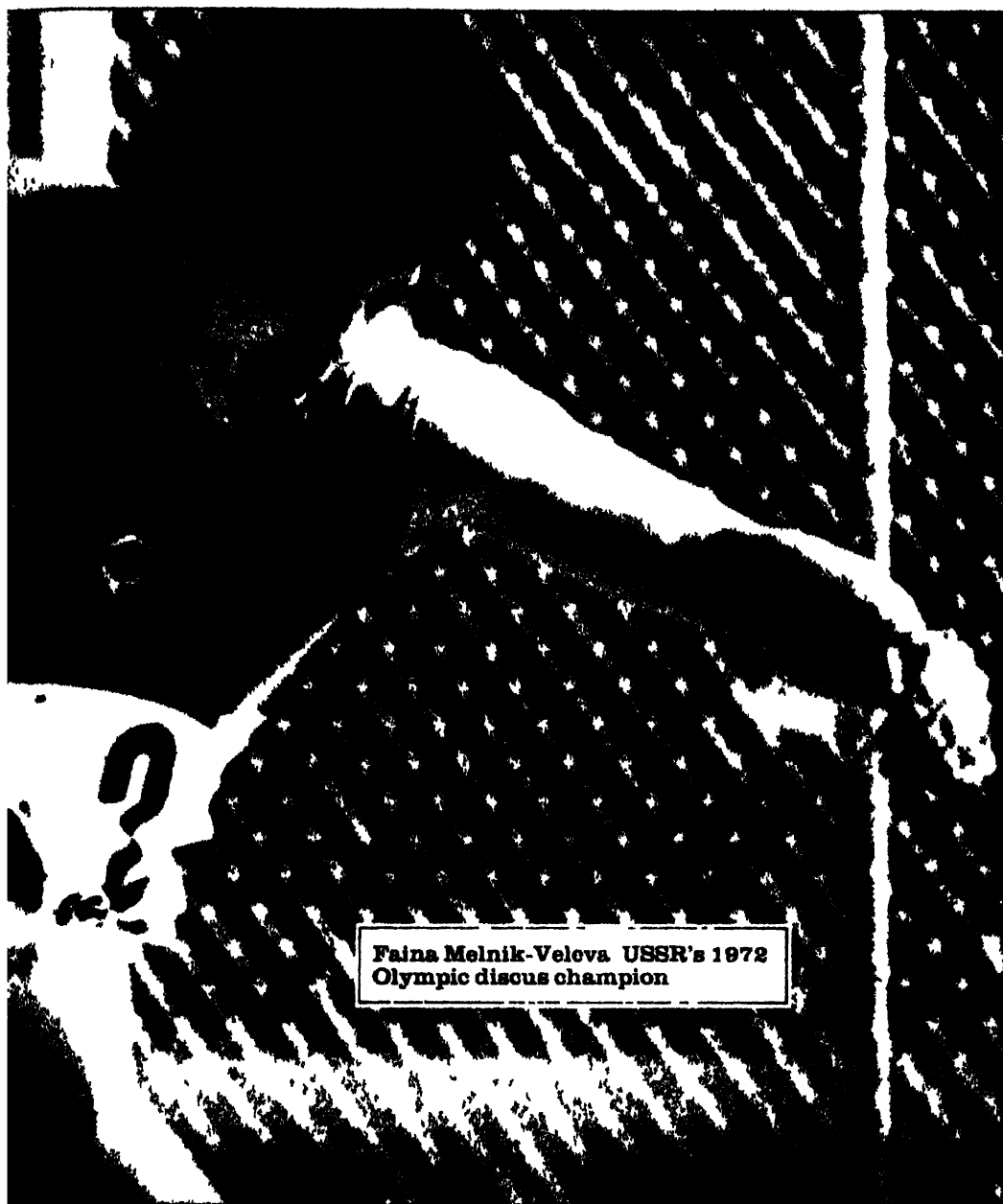


the actual throw itself.

Many American teams tend to build endurance by the more general method of simply running laps, reserving court moves for the game itself. Soviet basketball players build endurance with drills that require them to run down the court performing moves they use in actual play—cuts, slides, bursts and jumps. The Soviets' brand of specific training is a simple concept, but it probably helped them win the basketball gold in 1988.

5) REGENERATION

When the workout's over, Soviet athletes don't head to a local watering hole to relax. Instead,



Faina Melnik-Veleva USSR's 1972 Olympic discus champion

Unlike the United States where much of an athlete's time is spent on general fitness training, the Soviets try to make all their workouts apply directly to their sport, cross training mainly to avoid burnout

Massage is the Soviets' favourite after workout treatment. Rather than the general back rubdown many Americans are accustomed to, Soviet sports massage is directed at the specific muscles used in the activity. For instance, a tennis player's massage is vastly different than a discus thrower's.

Almost all Soviet athletes conduct at least a half hour of self-massage daily. Massage is also widely used as a warmup activity.

In addition, the Russians use saunas and steam baths to restore themselves. These aren't rewards for a good workout, but an integral part of the

they work on recovering their strength.

One method the Soviets commonly use is electrical stimulation. Small devices are used to send a mild electrical current through muscles, stimulating a prolonged contraction.

The Soviets are also experimenting with the recuperative powers of hypnotically induced sleep. After a workout, an athlete enters a tent where a doctor induces a hypnotic sleep for two or three minutes. The relaxation is so complete that one study showed that swimmers could train between 50 and 100 per cent longer when they knew they could recuperate immediately after the workout.

training. Like almost everything else in the Soviet Union, they require a specific procedure. An athlete doesn't just wander into the sauna. After practice, he has to wait an hour or two. In the interim, he showers and wipes his skin dry to lower his body temperature. The Russians believe this cooldown stimulates greater release of wastes from the body through sweating when the athlete enters the sauna. Some American experts may scoff at this, citing research that shows few toxins are leached this way, but the Soviets claim that the athlete is more likely to return strong the following day. It's another example of their systematic—and successful—Soviet sports philosophy. ●

PLAY IT AGAIN, REF?

The Tyson knock out has put boxing referees under the microscope. But the pressure to make instant—and correct—judgements is the same for arbiters in any sport. In a look at foul play in football, BRIAN GLANVILLE examines whether video playbacks should be used by referees.



THE replay is something terribly new and recent in a sport which is now some 120 years old...yet to err is human

WOULD referee Danny Vickers have allowed Newcastle's second equaliser in Sunday's first televised cup tie if he had been able to see the action in plays? The playbacks suggested Manchester United's goalkeeper Jim Leighton was unfairly



impeded as he went to challenge for a corner and the score could have been ruled out.

But whether the goal was legal or not, it once again poses the question: Should there be action replays for referees?

FIFA think not. Campanati, president of the Italian referees association, is in favour but got nowhere when he discussed the idea recently with FIFA secretary Sepp Blatter.

'Football', said Blatter, 'is a

universal sport whose best quality is its immediacy. To make it too technical would be counter-productive. In a year, 15 million games are played in tens of thousands of stadia. How many of these could allow themselves sophisticated electronic apparatus like Italy '90, the World Cup organisation?

Such a response was predictable and clearly has much to be said in its favour. But is Blatter a kind of modern King Canute, ordering the waves to go back when they will inevitably roll in and swamp him?

The action replay is something terribly new and recent in a sport which is now some 120 years old. It certainly puts extra pressure on referees whose decisions come under intense scrutiny from the

HOW splendid it would be if it were possible to eliminate error from soccer, especially from its most important games. But can it be done?



Scene from an FA Cup Final. Taking the opposition off its feet

television cameras soon after a major game is over

Yet to err is human and the perfect referee, the impeccable linesman, have yet to be born

Did a foul take place inside or outside the penalty areas? How often has that been a bone of contention and how often have television cameras proved the referee to be wrong?

THE notorious 1985 European Cup Final at Heysel Stadium, Brussels, was—once the carnage was over and the football started won by a penalty of dubious origin

Gillespie, the Liverpool centre-back, tripped his man, a cynical 'professional foul', just outside the penalty box but the referee awarded a penalty, from which Michel Platini shot the only goal of the game

In the European Championship Final in Rome five years earlier, Uli Stielike, the German sweeper, brought down the Belgian Van der Elst just outside the area. The referee in this case too, awarded a penalty, which was converted although the West Germans went on to win

On each of these occasions it was hard to have much sympathy with the perpetrators. Had the 'professional foul' rule, briefly

employed in the English League, and now seemingly to be resurrected been in force, both of them would have been automatically sent off

Yet, had a television monitor been available, on the side of the pitch, it would have told the referee at a mere glance that the fouls had been committed outside the area

Let us take some other, notorious, incidents, above all the "Hand of God" goal scored against England by Diego Maradona in the Aztec Stadium in the 1986 World Cup

Steve Hodge hooked the ball, somewhat rashly, over his head. Maradona leaped with England goalkeeper Peter Shilton. Up went his hand to divert the ball into goal. The inexperienced African referee, getting no advice from his linesman, awarded the goal. A shocked and demoralised England team quickly gave away another, and were beaten

"It was like a man who had just had his wallet stolen," said an Italian journalist to me after the game. "The English defence was still in a state of shock"

Some years earlier, I remember watching a vital World Cup qualifying game between Wales and Scotland, played on the Liverpool ground. The ball came

high into the Welsh penalty box. A hand went up and diverted it. The French referee assumed the hand was Welsh, and gave a penalty, which was converted

But the hand belonged to the Scotland centre-forward Joe Jordan. TV would show it plainly. Wales would lose, and be eliminated

THERE is nothing new about such injustices and they do not solely involve foul play. Indeed, they are as old as football itself. Take the infamous Over the Line goal of 1932 which virtually decided the FA Cup Final. Arsenal were a goal ahead against Newcastle United when a long ball was booted towards their goal line. Richardson, the Newcastle inside-right, tore after it. He reached it—but was it before or after it went over the line? Richardson crossed it, anyway. The Arsenal defenders stopped, convinced the ball was out of play. Allen, the Newcastle United centre-forward, headed it into the net. A goal was given.

Arsenal took it like sportsmen (it was another era then). Newcastle got another goal through Allen and went on to win the Cup.

There wasn't of course any television then but newsreel cameras would show beyond a doubt that the ball was over the line before Richardson reached it. So Arsenal had been cheated.

HOW splendid it would be if it were possible to eliminate error from soccer especially from its most important games

But can it be done? Do we know even now whether the goal Geoff Hurst scored to put England back in the lead, 3-2, in the World Cup Final of 1966 was valid or not? Had the ball crossed the line? As one who worked on the official film GOAL! and looked endlessly at the moviola, I still don't know.

The camera may not lie, but it does not always give you the whole truth.

Yet given the technological advances of the age, could referees not do with some help—even if it were available only at the higher levels of the game? ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week we're dealing with yet another three-step movement: two straight punches and one *uchi-mawashi-giri* (the roundhouse kick performed from inside to outside) from *kumite-dachi*.

Standing in *kumite-dachi*, hands held up to guard face, throw a straight punch with the left hand. Flicking the hand back, throw a straight punch with the right hand. Using the

forward momentum created by the punch, swing the hips slightly inward and deliver a *uchi-mawashi-giri* with the right leg, ankle

flexed to form a knife-edge with the edge of the foot.

This combination is especially effective when your opponent has dropped his right hand, providing the opening for your kick. It is also a good defense against an attack by a sword-wielding assailant.

By Shrivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate

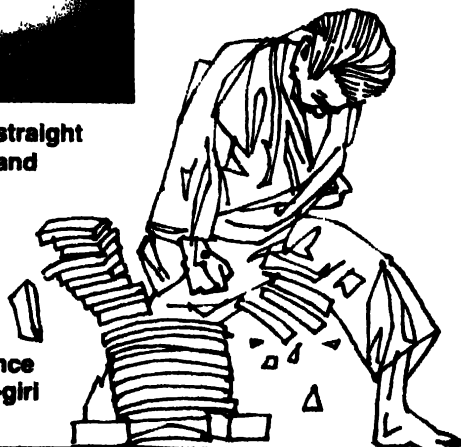
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



Throw a straight punch
with the left hand

Follow it up with another straight
punch with the right hand

Complete the sequence
with a *uchi-mawashi-giri*
with the right leg







INTERVIEW BY MUDAR PATHERYA

IMRAN KHAN ON

**RETIREMENT.
HIS DUTIES AS A MUSLIM.
HIS PRIVATE LIFE.
HIS TEMPER.
HIS ARROGANT IMAGE.
MARRIAGE.
BEING EDITOR.
HELPING THE POOR.
BEING ANTI-COLONIAL.
HIS FAN-MAIL.
HIS BALDNESS.
HIS SHYNESS.
HIS MAGAZINE.
HIS WARDROBE.
DIVORCE.
AND MOTIVATION.**

SPORTSWORLD: Are you intending to retire after the Australian tour?

IMRAN KHAN: I am not taking any decision with regard to my future now. Having done so once, I think it is pointless pre-empting the future when one has no control over it.

'No control'? What do you mean?

One doesn't, because circumstances change. What I am thinking now may not be the case in March or October. There is no point in taking a decision now.

Is it going to be a snap-decision?

Rather, it is going to be a carefully-considered one.

Do you ever realise how fortunate you have been?

You have derived more 'izzat' in your career than most cricketers do in a lifetime?

As a Muslim I believe that 'izzat' and 'zillat' are both in the hands of the Almighty

Definitely. Every day I thank the Almighty for this. As a Muslim I believe that 'izzat' (fame) and 'zillat' (disgrace) are both in the hands of the Almighty, and I think him for all the 'izzat' that he has given me.

I have seen the reception you get from the crowds in Pakistan. There are crowds waiting to merely have a look at you—outside the grounds, hotels etc. It's quite amazing that you've got adulation coming from all sides without you trying for it consciously.

Here you are wrong. I have tried consciously for it, harder than any cricketer you know internationally. I never

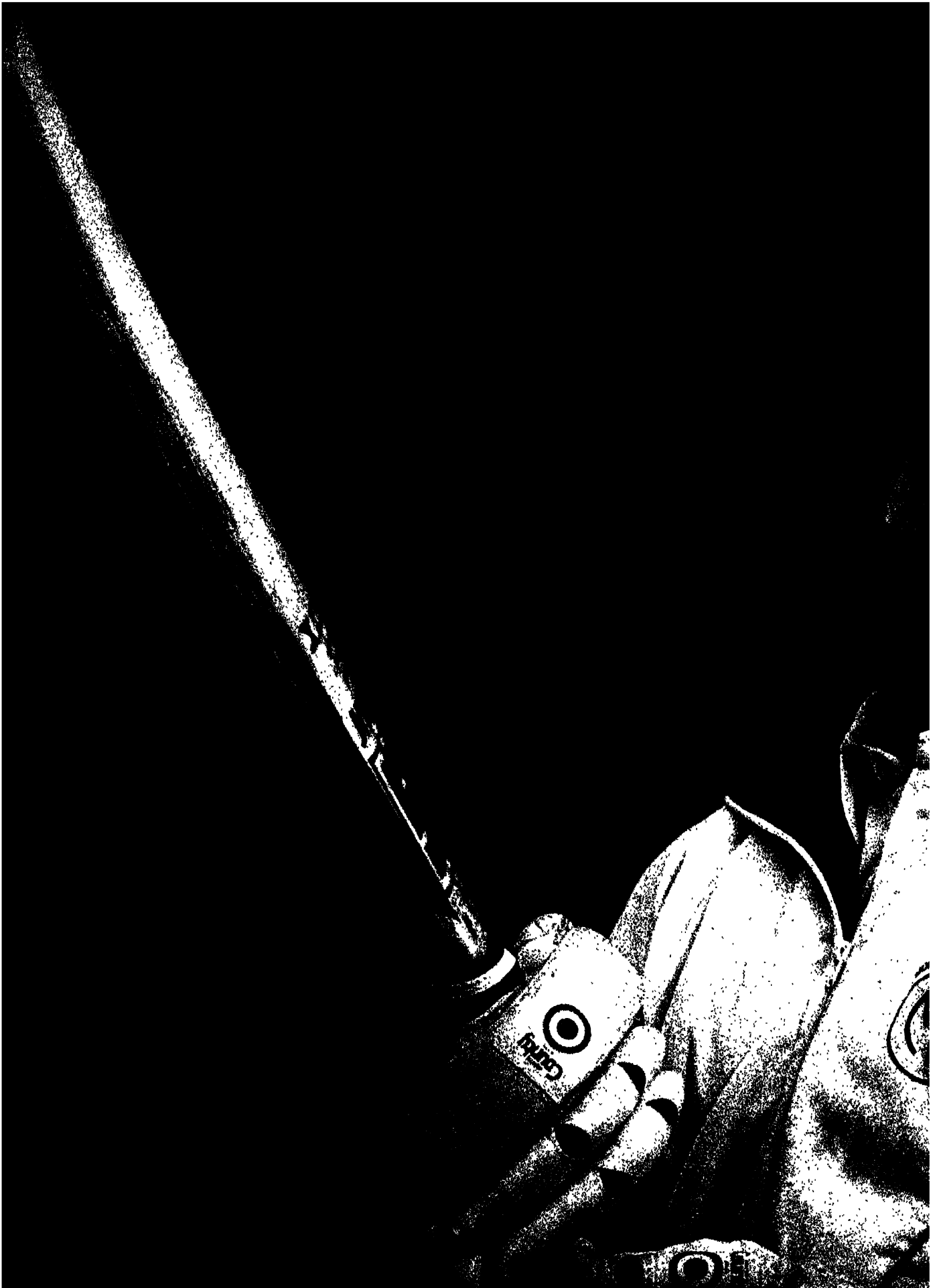
considered it hard work though. From the age of 18 onwards, it was my greatest desire to fulfil the potential God had given me. I did not want to waste my talent.


As an 18-year-old did you realise that you were talented?

Yes, because I was better than the boys in my school. I was a good sportsman and that was saying much because we had a fairly high standard in Aitchison College, Lahore. But I was different from the other boys of my age in that I was ambitious. My aims were always higher than that of the others. I cannot forget that even in my first Test in 1971, whereas most cricketers my age would have hoped for two or three wickets and a place in the following game, I was aiming for nothing less than 10 wickets in the Test plus a century. Don't forget, I was 18, it was my Test debut and I hardly knew anything of cricket, and yet...this made me strive all the time. Even when I was nominated the Best All Rounder in England at the age of 23 in 1976, most cricketers would have been satisfied. But I was not...I was dissatisfied. I wanted to do better. Even in the game against Lancashire when I took 13 wickets and scored a hundred, I wanted to do more. When I look at what I was in those days and compare that with the talent and the motivation that some of the current Pakistan players have, I am disappointed. They are not ambitious enough which means they are not driven enough. I used to come back from a long season in England and be at the









nets the following day at the Lahore Gym. I doubt if that happens with most of the boys today. And yet, I never found it hard work. It was a sort of therapy for me. Mental relaxation. You say you work harder than most cricketers I know of. How hard would that be? Since I am an all-rounder, I have had to work on two aspects. I would have been a better batsman in the record books had I concentrated only on it. At one stage, Pakistan

needed my fast bowling badly. In the Sydney Test, 1976-77, Pakistan went into the Test with just two fast bowlers on a green top. Sarfraz and I bowled all day. I was just 23 but the pressure was building on me to succeed as a fast bowler at the cost of my batting. And I rarely ever broke down (compare this to with the number of young fast bowlers who are missing Test matches due to fitness problems) apart from the stress fracture and a

'COMPANIONSHIP FROM MARRIAGE ALONE IS NONSENSE!'

Why Imran prefers to stay single.

One of your quotes has been that a bachelor lives the life of a king when 25 and that of a dog when 60. Hasn't it bothered you that you are not married and time may be running out?

Who knows of the future? Everyone needs companionship, whether young or old. You can get it from a female friend or a male friend. Companionship is important, but to say that one can get it only from a marriage is nonsense. You can have the loneliest time in a marriage. I strongly believe that I will not get married until I can do justice to it. Another human being's life depends on me. Marriage is a very serious thing, especially bringing kids into this world. I don't think people should take this step unless they are sure they can do justice to it. Look at the number of divorces...look at the number of kids who grow up stunted because of unhappy marriages...look at the number of women ruined because of broken marriages. In our part of the world, women face a difficult time once divorced. And here I confess that I have never felt that I would be up to it—six months in one place, four months in another would not be fair to a wife.

Why haven't most cricketers thought this way then? People are different. Maybe it suited them anyway. But I do know a lot of cricketers who put pressure on their marriages.

**'Marriage is a very serious thing,
especially bringing kids into this
world'**

couple of other muscle pulls. I used to spend an hour each day exclusively to improve my fitness as a fast bowler. Intensive training nearly 365 days a year. Unlike Daley Thomson's six hours-a-day routine, I never found mine laborious. You mentioned that you

myself, relaxing and shooting and not at the Bagh-i-Jinnah ground as the rumour goes. Two, I hate public places while training. I hate interruptions because hangers-on generally stop to watch me or ask me questions or engage me in conversation. Earlier on, I used to train at the

out. Do you find all these girls screaming your name from the stands, or even grown-ups running for your autograph, and the overall attention you get comforting to your ego? It mattered a lot when I was young. I was surprised that people were actually chanting my name the first time I

on an individual as the general expectation becomes high after you do well, and should you then fail these very people can become quite nasty. This is what I hate most; if you asked me of my preferences, not getting rudeness would be on top. Are people rude to you? Every now and then there are instances. But I insist, I would rather not get the adulation and attention if at the same time I were not to get the rudeness as well. I detest it. Even as a child, I hated any form



MOJIBUL HAMEED

'I say the 'namaaz' morning and night. I try not to miss it'

thank the Almighty for all the 'izzat' that you have got. Does it mean that you say the 'namaaz'? Yes, it is 'namaaz' morning and night. I try not to miss it. There is a story doing the rounds that you went through a crisis after the Reliance Cup. You weren't recognised when you went out for jogs and you found it hard to adjust to this sudden absence of adulation. It is biggest load of nonsense I have heard. For two reasons—one, after the Reliance Cup I was in the mountains by

Bagh-i-Jinnah but ended up sweating it out at Zaman Park, which is where I live. Physical training has a lot to do with mental therapy, unwinding and sorting one's mind out. It has never worked for me to train at public parks. So the rumour that people failed to acknowledge me at the Bagh-i-Jinnah after the Reliance Cup is not true. What is this 'sorting one's mind out'? Any problem basically, cricket or personal. I find that they dissolve while one is working

was noticed. It started in Australia in 1976-77. I was bewildered at the attention I got in India in 1979. So surprised that I would often tell myself that it must be someone else in the team and not me that these people were after. I felt like an impostor. But then as you grow older you tend to become philosophical. You realise that all the attention is mainly transitory and this adulation is fickle. People love you only until you do badly. This, in turn, puts pressure

of rudeness in friends and others. Did your family upbringing have anything to do with this? Was not being rude stressed at home? I was born with it I suppose. Or maybe the family environment also helped. People of my family have been known to kill if insulted. It's very much a Pathan thing. Coming back to your high-profile image, does the exposure put your private life under the microscope? That is to be expected. I am not one of the public figures who is shocked when someone tries to expose my private life. If you have something to hide, you should expect it. I have been fortunate though. In my case there hasn't been much to hide. Do you also have problems like the majority of the common people? For example, not being able to

afford something? Or even bored with life?

It depends on what one's needs are. Mine are not many and the few that I have are quite straightforward. And yes, boredom. I have a low threshold of boredom. Contrasts stimulate me. I hate stereotypes in people and places. I relish originals. Do you lose your temper often?

Yes, but again, mainly from people being rude. Apart from that, I lose my temper on the cricket field. I have seen you for years now. Your image appears to be a carefully-cultivated one. You won't endorse just any product, you won't be photographed without your shirt. I mean, you won't consciously do certain things because you are Imran Khan.

Sadly I posed without a shirt in my younger days when I was raw and never understood the full implications. I saw the results and felt silly. Why did I need to do it, I asked myself? Why pose like a model? I didn't want myself to be associated with a pretty face. Besides, I wouldn't want to endorse more products than I already have. I did a commercial for a friend in India a few years ago, but made sure that I didn't make an ass of myself. I made sure I didn't have to put soap on my face and say 'I use Cinthol'. Maybe the fear probably stems from a certain fear of how my mother and sisters would react to what I would do. The prime consideration was not to project a certain kind of image. It was basically not to make a fool of myself. Which is

'As a Muslim I am a fatalist'

why I haven't acted in films. I would look so foolish. Have you ever wished you lived the life of a common man, happily married, taking the family out for a picnic or the wife to films? I asked this because a sportsman like Boris Becker wishes he was an anonymous young man, able to walk the streets without being bothered. Never (laughs) I have no regrets about my life, maybe one or I don't remember. I try to learn from bad experiences. But if you say 'married with kids' then no regrets! There is this book by Frances Edmonds where she writes that she encountered you in one of your depressed moods, and you rued that a palmist had predicted that what was happening to you was inevitable. You and a fatalist?!

As a Muslim I am. Islam clearly states that fate and destiny is in God's hands and one can change it only through prayer or working hard. You appear to be quite sentimental. The other day you were wearing a WSC shirt that must have survived 10 years. Thirteen in fact! I didn't know where all my shirts had disappeared, so I pulled one out and it turned out to be this one. It was lying in a corner of the cupboard. I am surprised it survived so

'I hate stereotypes in people and places. I relish originals'

'WHY I AM ANTI-COLONIAL!'

Imran Khan on the pride of being a Pakistani.

You are known for your staunch anti-colonial stance. People like Haseeb Ahsan have also come through as anti-colonial. Earlier we had managers to England who dressed like Englishmen and insisted on the team members turning out immaculately as British schoolboys. Speaking in an English accent and all that. Haseeb was different; he made it clear on that 1987 tour that he wasn't going to take rubbish from the English press. When they jumped on him, he stood up and fought it out. He said he wasn't interested in a life membership of the MCC, wasn't interested in sitting in the Long Room at Lord's years later to say 'Old boy, I brought that Pakistan team here in 1987!'

I don't know whether you are aware of this, but the Pakistan team in Australia will not wear blazers and ties for official functions but salwar-kameez and a sherwani. This is a popular move by our boys. They strongly feel that blazers is not their culture. What would they be trying to prove if they toggled themselves out as Englishmen? The resurgence in one's own values is there. I saw it rise in Pakistan in the Seventies when we started moving away from colonialism. It was no longer trendy in Lahore to talk English with an accent. We started going back to our roots. Since we were liberated not too long back, the complex has taken time to go. When I came into the game in 1971 we were told to forget about beating England; they said the English system was too good for us. I remember that Majid was my hero, but Majid's hero was a batsman called Parfitt. Things have changed now. Boys look up at the batsmen of their own countries as heroes these days. And yes, Viv Richards is also strongly anti-colonial. People like him are coming through now.

You mentioned 'liberated'. Do you feel that this liberation has not come about in our minds? Exactly. The worst of colonialism was not that they took out of the country and enriched themselves. Not even exploitation. The worst of colonialism was the mental domination. The lack of self-respect and pride. The greatest disaster of colonialism has been our inferiority complex.

'The worst of colonialism was the mental domination. The lack of self-respect and pride. The greatest disaster of colonialism has been our inferior complex'

KAMAL JULKA



long
You are also editor of a high-profile cricket magazine. What was the reason for starting it? Straightforward One there was not one really international cricket magazine Two, the Third World opinion was not being reflected in any of the existing

'As a Muslim it is my duty to give 1/40th of my income to charity'

international magazines The West has a strong press and all we were coming across were views like

'Pakis are cheats I hate playing sport not in a fair way Winning unless fair is meaningless Therefore

it affected me when I found that the odd English cricketer was not straight or that there has been the odd English umpire who has been crooked And yet they got away with it Our umpires were labelled cheats when they made mistakes Or when one of our players

'I AM SHY, NOT THE PARTYING TYPE!'

Imran Khan on himself

Some day you will have to transit to an anonymous Imran Khan. How will you be able to take the change? Any withdrawal symptoms that you envisage?

It is a hypothetical question and I don't know what might happen I guess I will adjust easier than others in the public eye because I am essentially a private person I don't go to public places and am not the partying type either I move within a small circle of friends that hasn't changed since my school days I am not the type who finds new social groups from time to time I am not a big entertainer My greatest enjoyment is a shoot in the wilderness or trekking I think I am shy, not an extrovert If I happen to enter a room full of people, I will not be the assertive one I would be the one to keep quiet So perhaps someone like me may not have that much of a problem adjusting to anonymity as would probably someone who

does the social circuit from Ascot to Monte Carlo Or from Lahore parties to Karachi's New Year parties to Bombay I am not that type

Your public image is just the opposite—that of an arrogant, jetset, hot-shot five-star mover. That's not me I am a man with simple tastes I am not extravagant I do my shopping for clothes once a year I have never been a clothes-man I don't have a huge wardrobe-sort of thing I just love my salwar-kameez and jeans

I noticed, for example, that you have been wearing your ten boots for a long time.

(Laughs) I am not into dressing that much. I love food, but here again the simpler the better Just last night I went into a village outside Sukkot to see someone and had my first food in a long time there!

'I HAVE PEOPLE COMING TO MY HOUSE EVERY DAY FOR HELP'

Imran Khan on charity and the cancer hospital

How concerned are you about the needy and the poor?

Very, though it would be wrong to assume that I was born with this. Experiences change you and here I will confess that my mother's death changed me. It brought me face to face with the reality of the Pakistan Health Service. I realised that even people with money can't do much besides suffering. I actually saw an old man suffer not because he had cancer, but because his brother did. He couldn't do a thing. He didn't have the money to pay for his brother's treatment. I was touched; it made me wake up to the fact that in my country the medicines are expensive, the people poor and the facilities negligible. Besides, cancer requires the most expensive treatment and if you have a close relative who is suffering from it, you may not be able to do much more than just watching the person die in pain. My mother was the person closest to me. Her death changed me. My ambitions also changed. From someone who would have gone into industry, made a lot of money and lived comfortably, my attitude now changed to 'I have got enough money for my needs, am living comfortably, and there is no limit to the amount of money one can keep desiring'. I concluded that I would derive more satisfaction from doing something for the needy and the suffering.

Something like Abdus Sattar Edhi in your country? I can't

Trying to like him at least?

That man has done so much, that to compare myself to him would be silly. He has devoted his entire life to the poor and suffering of Pakistan. I am going to try my best to do something like that. If I can set up a cancer hospital in Pakistan I would consider that a great achievement.

I've heard a story that an old lady from Hyderabad wrote a letter to you in blood asking for Rs 15,000—and you had it delivered.

It's not generosity, but a duty. As a Muslim I have to give 'zakaat'.

Do you give 'zakaat'?

Of course, I do. It is my duty as a Muslim to give 1/40th of my income to charity.

Do you ever sit back and think of the problems of the poor? How the average man makes his ends meet, for example?

It might surprise you but this goes through my mind every day. I have people coming to my house every day for help. Sadly I can't help everyone with money. Just the other day, someone asked me for Rs 60,000. Every day I get letters asking me for monetary assistance. There are people outside my house asking for jobs. How can I give all of them jobs or money? I have to use my discretion and help only those who are really needy.

tried something not entirely legal. The whole team was branded. But it went on in England too and nothing happened to them. I resented this. Look at how they have discriminated against the West Indians over the years. The English

kept proclaiming that fast bowling was a spectacle as long as they had the fast bowlers. Once the West Indians came along with their battery, the English began complaining that fast bowling was boring. They have used all sorts

of excuses to protect their own. I couldn't believe it when I saw the way the West Indians got bad press in Australia last season. What sort of fan mail do you get?

Sixty to 70 letters a week. It is not possible to reply to most but since these people take the trouble of writing to me, I make it a point to read every letter. Strangely 60 per cent of my fan mail comes from India. Most letters from males in Pakistan are usually requests for money, jobs or advice related to

cricket.

One hears you are writing a book.

It's a pictorial book on a journey along the river Indus and her tributaries.

You are balding!

I have had team members pulling my leg over the receding hairline for ages. I suppose one has to gracefully accept that one is going old. Being 37 is not the same as being 27.

Note. This interview was taken in Sialkot, December 1989

'Every day I get letters asking for monetary assistance. There are people outside my house asking for jobs. How can I give all of them jobs or money?'

SOUTH AFRICAN REBEL TOUR

"No-one calls

The SACU's driving force, **Ali Bacher**, gives his views why the English rebel tour had to be cut short

IT is perhaps a measure of the man that Dr Ali Bacher the controlling hand behind the controversial Mike Gatting English XI tour remains respected by many of those who were vehemently opposed to his tour

Dr Bacher was in the frontline of meetings with protestors in Bloemfontein, Kimberley and Pietermaritzburg negotiating to ensure that the demonstrations were allowed by the authorities and that they remained peaceful

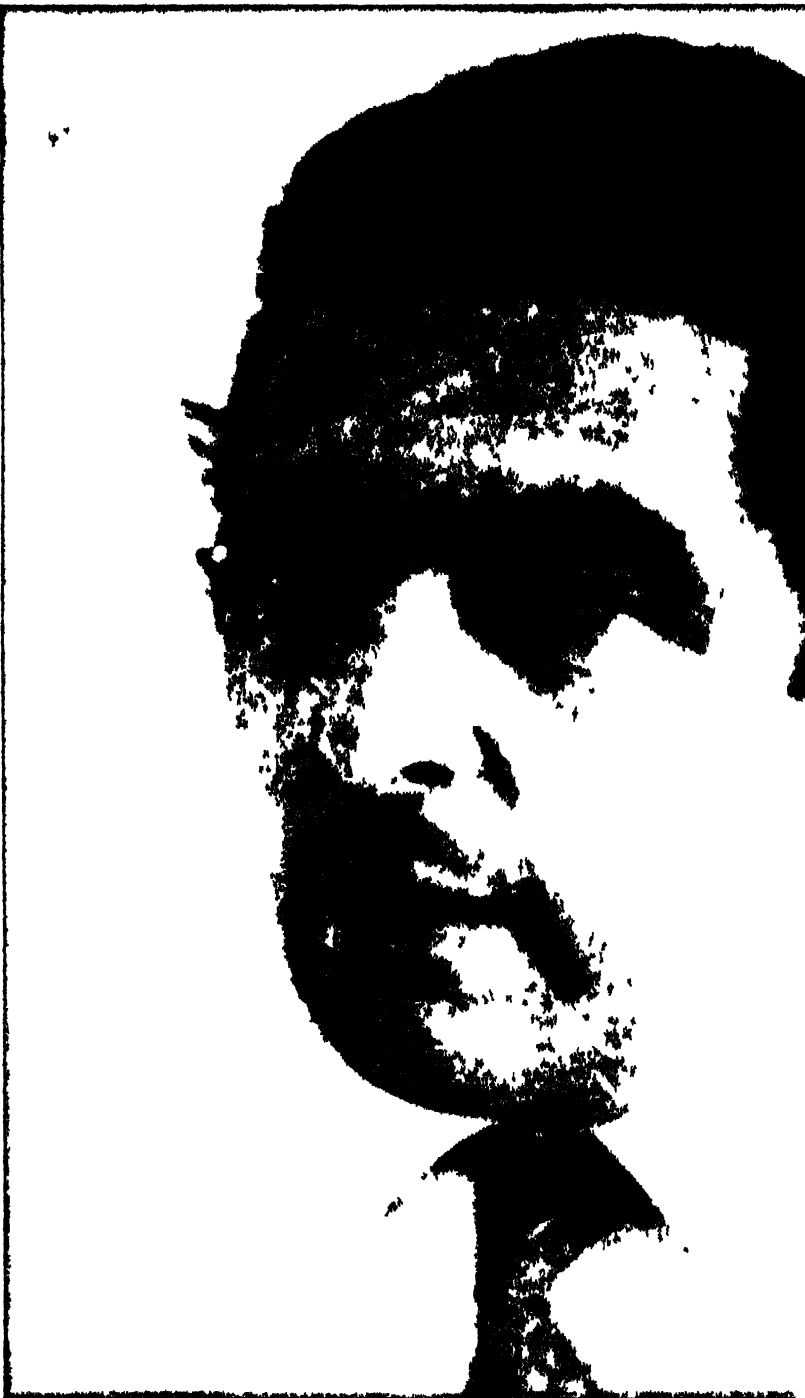
'Touch wood he says, but I have always been treated with the greatest courtesy by the protestors. They shake my hand and certainly no-one has abused me or called me a racist

Dr Bacher reflecting on the pebble-throwing incident involving Gatting at the Jan Smuts Stadium in Pietermaritzburg, emphasised that he was not looking for confrontation with the protestors. We hold strong views on apartheid and we have expressed them often enough, but this was a cricket tour for those who wanted to play and watch cricket. But as a soft target, we have been caught in the crossfire. Political events in South Africa have overtaken the tour.'

The SA Cricket Union managing director was not concerned at having to walk a 100-metre gauntlet of protestors and marshals with Mike Gatting to reach the podium at the Jan Smuts Stadium.

'Maybe I'm thick,' he adds with a laugh, 'but no, I wasn't worried.'

He did not expect that President F W de Klerk's speech on Feb 2 would take any heat off the tour. 'It was a political issue



Bacher: protestors treat him with respect

me a racist"

for those opposed to the tour. There might have been fewer contentious issues.

Dr Bacher said that the strategy of those opposing such tours had changed. At the time of Kim Hughes' Australian tour, the ANC were threatening violence. Now we have had sanctions and mass defiance.

He was full of praise for the role played by Gattings. 'He went out to meet his detractors, walked through the mass of chanting protestors and then had a few things thrown at him. When he got back to the changing room, one of his players told him to stay off the field for another 20 minutes, but he just stood up, led the players back onto the field and carried on bowling. He is not short of courage, that man.'

"Touch wood," he says, "but I have always been treated with the greatest courtesy by the protestors. They shake my hand and certainly no-one has abused me or called me a racist."

Dr Bacher said that he hoped Gattings' approach would reverse some of the negativity of the tour. 'Everything has been negative from Day 1. In the country, there were more than 50 British professional golfers, but there was no fuss made about them. The pressure on the English players has been huge, relentless, unyielding. But the captain and the manager (David Graveney) have been phenomenal.'

'When we called the tour off, we had already sold over 100,000 tickets, and twice that number would have watched the games. Millions of others of all race groups would have watched the games on television. Their rights ought also to have been protected.'

The tourists all have two-tour contracts with the SACU, but Dr Bacher would not be drawn on what would happen next season. 'We'll have to see what happens. What I can say is that we

will honour our contracts with the English players. We won't let them down.'

The most disappointing feature of the tour as far as Dr Bacher is concerned was the approach of some of the English Press party travelling with the side. 'The SACU bent over backwards to help them get out here, arranging their visas and providing them with facilities. They were free to move around as they pleased, speak to whoever they wanted to and form their own opinions. If they then went home and criticised the SA Cricket Union, then we would have regarded that as constructive.'

All we asked for was balanced, objective reporting and I'm afraid we have not had that. Gattings has been vilified with statements and even photographs taken out of context and doctored.

Dr Bacher said that many of the overseas articles/cuttings have regularly been sent back to the SACU offices—have been orchestrated to add credibility to the reports. 'The same phrases keep cropping up in different newspapers,' he says.

Had the overseas Press incited any incidents?

'Well, every time there was a possible confrontation they were there. The classic was in Bloemfontein, where they apparently all spent the day around the hotel pool while the cricket was on, but then went to the ground together with the delegation of protestors at three in the afternoon.'

Dr Bacher said that one of the major purposes of the unofficial tours was to encourage the younger players. 'It looked bleak four or five years ago, but just look at the youngsters coming through now: Rushmore, Cullinan, Snell, Donald, de Villiers, Rundle and McGlashan, to name just a few.'

I think from that point of view, anyway, the tours have been successful. They have not been arranged either to break down or support apartheid. At the end of the day they are cricket tours.'

John Bishop
Wisden Cricket Monthly

Strong Arm Tactics

HOW'RE your arms doing? Considering we've been concentrating on them for the last two weeks it's high time you're rolling your sleeves one fold higher. After all you don't see Bruce Springsteen and Arnold Schwarzenegger in long sleeve shirts too often, do you? Those guys have spent some heavy-duty time in the gym, beefing up the arms and they aren't too keen on covering it all up.

Well-developed arms

don't just mean bulging biceps that rip your shirt sleeves every time you bend your elbow. They are a means of embodying a man's strength in a special way. Of sending a quiet but direct message. Get the drift?

Okay, this week we're going into the nitty-gritty of arm-building. Where the triceps and forearm muscles are given a workout equal to the one we normally give the biceps. Contrary to popular belief, the triceps are actually a bigger muscle than the biceps. And therefore contributes more than most of us realise when we talk arm size or strength. As for the forearm, there are small, specialised muscles there which primarily work the wrist. While it's not worth spending too much time on them—since power in sports like tennis and racketball depends more on speed and coordination—it is vital that they pack enough power to get your message across.

The first exercise detailed this week is for the triceps. Using a lat pull-down machine (where a straight bar is suspended from a pulley which connects it to the weights) stand upright, feet about shoulder width apart. Grip the bar with an overhanded grip, hands about 4-6 inches apart. Pull the bar down so that your upper arms are by your sides, keeping your arms bent completely at the elbows, so the bar is about chin level. Keep your elbows close to your body and slowly straighten your arms

while keeping the upper arm still and return to the starting position.

The next exercise is done with dumbbells. Standing comfortably, feet shoulder-width apart, hold a dumbbell in each arm as you let them hang by your sides. Raise the weights in front of your shoulders by completely bending your arms and lift your elbows as high as you can, making your upper arms almost vertical while the weights hang behind your shoulder. Now, keeping the upper arm stationary, slowly straighten your arm and lift the weights till they are directly above your shoulders. Slowly lower them till they are back in the starting position.

And the last one for the triceps: placing your left hand and left knee on a bench, keep the right leg close to the bench with the knee slightly bent as you grip a dumbbell with the

right hand. Lean over the bench till your back is parallel to it and raise the right elbow out behind you as high as you can. Slowly extend the right arm fully, lifting the dumbbell as the arm is straightened and bring back to the starting position. Once you've done your set of reps with the right hand, repeat the entire procedure with the left hand.

Now to move on to the forearms. Sitting on a bench, hold a dumbbell in each hand as you rest the forearms on your thighs, wrists just beyond kneecaps. Letting the weight of the dumbbells pull the wrist down, drop your hands against your knees. Now, getting a firm grip on the dumbbells, raise the weight by using the wrist as the fulcrum so that your palms face you at the end of the upward curl. When you can lift no more, slowly lower to the starting position.

The other exercise for the forearms is very similar. The only difference is that you use a overhanded grip on the dumbbells so that your palms are facing downward. From the wrist bent position, dumbbells resting off your knees, flex the wrist and lift the weights till the back of your palms are facing you. Once you've reached the top of your reverse curl, slowly return to the starting position.

As with all muscles in our body, don't work on them too often. Very often we overdo it in the belief that more means better. But that's not so. You've got to give the muscles a chance to recuperate after you really blast them out.

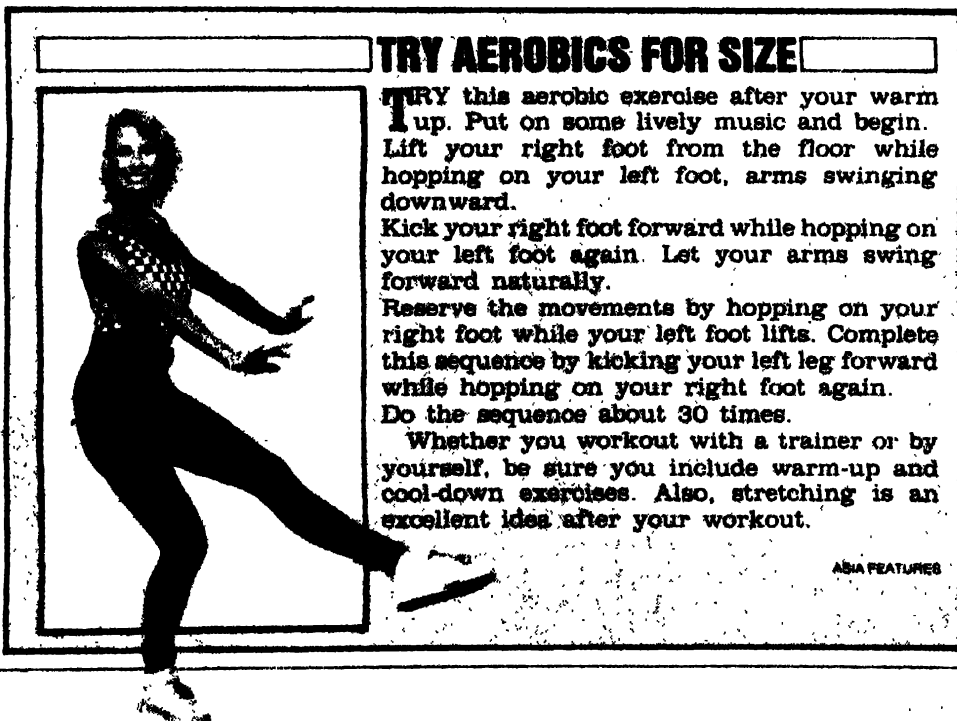
And, of course, while working biceps and triceps, try to use the same poundage on your dumbbells. Otherwise you're going to end up with highly haphazard upper arms!

TRY AEROBICS FOR SIZE

TRY this aerobic exercise after your warm up. Put on some lively music and begin. Lift your right foot from the floor while hopping on your left foot, arms swinging downward. Kick your right foot forward while hopping on your left foot again. Let your arms swing forward naturally. Reverse the movements by hopping on your right foot while your left foot lifts. Complete this sequence by kicking your left leg forward while hopping on your right foot again. Do the sequence about 30 times.

Whether you workout with a trainer or by yourself, be sure you include warm-up and cool-down exercises. Also, stretching is an excellent idea after your workout.

ASA FEATURES



ALESSANDRO NANNINI

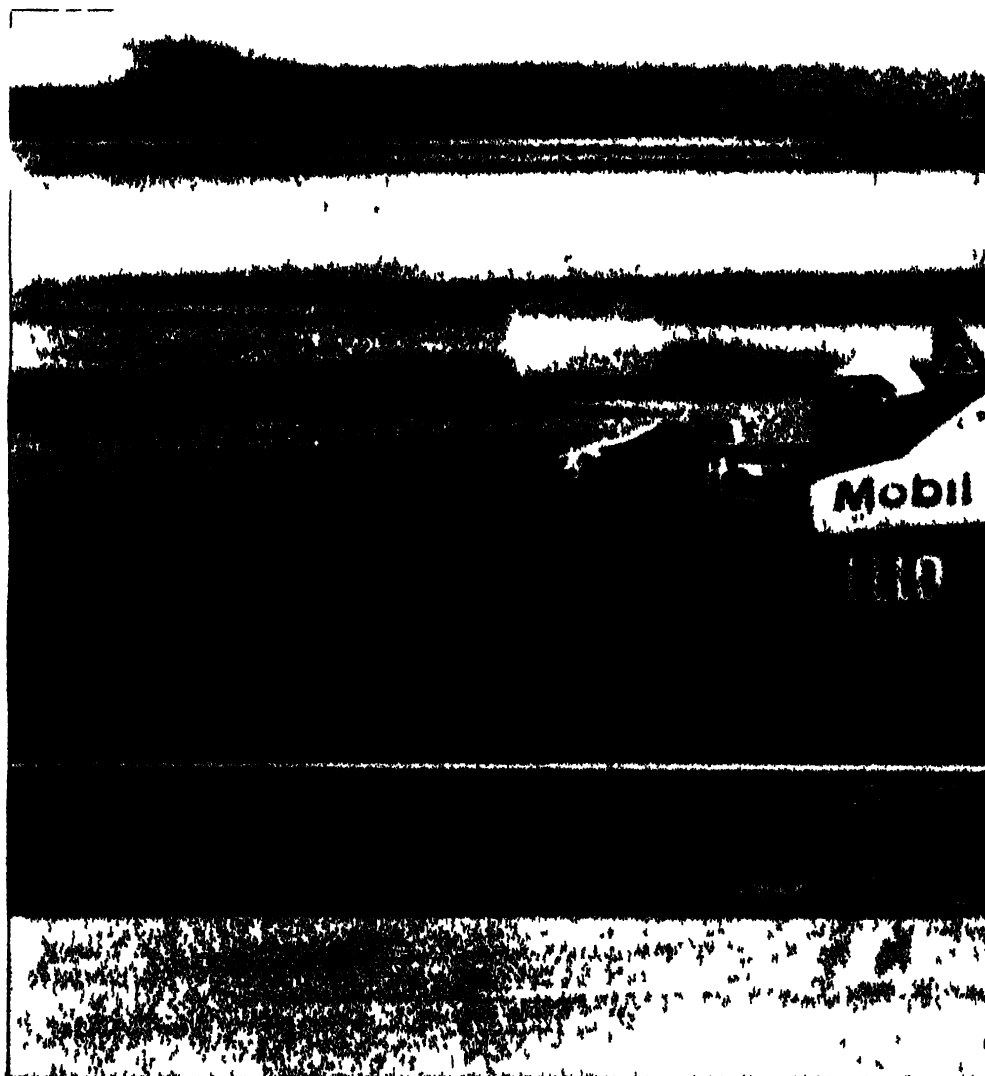
THE ITALIAN STALLION

In the high-octane world of Formula One racing, Alessandro Nannini is like a breath of fresh air



1 989 saw the Formula one circuit reverting to non-turbo cars again. It was also in this season that after many years the Ferrari team looked competitive enough to challenge the McLaren Honda supremacy. It was also the first time Alain Prost lost his cool, the first season which saw the cool Belgian Thierry Boutsen win his first GP race. And it was also the year Boutsen's earlier team-mate Alessandro Nannini notched up the first ever GP win of his career.

It took the oriental environment of Suzuka in Japan to bring out the best in this 29-year-old driving casanova. Behind the wheel of the electric green Benetton-Ford, Nannini proved that he was a true world beater as he set a hot pace which led to McLaren-Hondas piloted by Prost and Senna, go out as they sparred with each other. Nannini, with his superlative drive



eventually inherited the win from 1988 world champion Ayrton Senna who was subsequently disqualified. An unusual win but then Alessandro Nannini is not your usual F-1 driver prototype.

In the mad, mad world of Formula One racing where the cars normally overshadow the drivers, Alessandro Nannini is the odd man out. Unconventional is the word that describes him the best. Bypassing the usual Kart and Formula 3000 route, Nannini entered the world of F-1 racing as a rank

outsider. Born July 8, 1959 at Siena, Italy, he started on two wheels and graduated to rallying at the age of 18.

The switch to circuit racing brought him instant results: his third ever Formula Fiat race at Varano getting him his first win while the following year saw him win the Italian title. Having tasted success at the lower rung of the formula racing hierarchy, he decided to make a switch to Formula 2 when he accepted an offer from Giancarlo Minardi.

Short on results the

Minardi team gambled on Nannini's daredevil driving to pull them out of the seemingly unending tailspin.

The following two years saw Nannini's career in limbo as team Minardi struggled with a low budget and unreliable engines. The only ray of hope for the team was the second place win in 1983 at the West German circuit of Nurburgring.

Meanwhile, Nannini had made it to Lancia's Group C sports car team and the stage was set for Nannini to move over to F-1 racing and soon an opportunity was offered to him by Giancarlo Minardi who was setting up a new team for the 1985 season. But fate struck a cruel blow as FISA decreed that his F-2 results were not enough and rejected his application for a superlicence necessary for F-1 racing.

Undaunted, Nannini kept on working hard, and soon after his fourth season with Lancia Racing, earned his licence. In 1986 he was ready to join the Minardi team.

But the unreliable engine again was a major problem. However, despite the constant engine problems it was obvious that the handsome Italian was a world class driver.

In 1988, he moved over to Benetton-Ford and ever since then his career has been on an upswing. A whole lot of hard work awaited him at the Benetton as he had to test drive for hours together. And much of this has been a lonely business for Nannini.

Added to this was some physical problems as the new car was faster than his previous vehicle. At the end of the 1988 season he had remarked 'I've had some problems with neck muscles this year because I'm subjected to more downforce than I was with Minardi.'

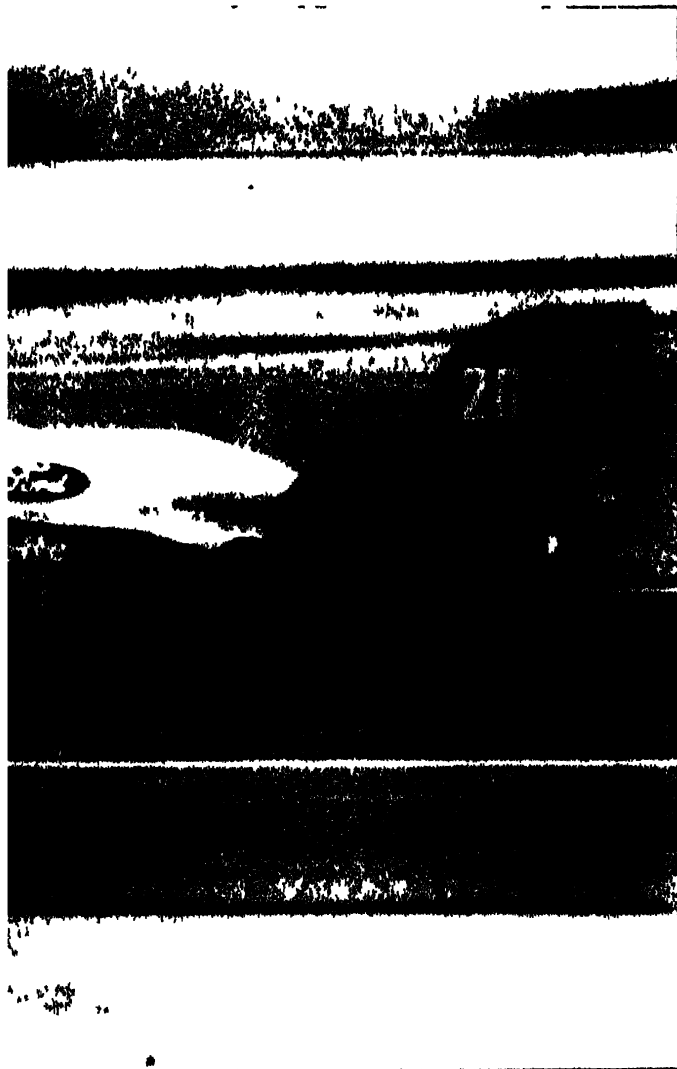
But that was two years ago. The start of the 1989 season saw Nannini perfectly fit and he said, 'Now that I'm the number one driver on the team I have more responsibility. I'm sure that this year we will prove that Benetton-Ford is a world beater.' His statement proved to be prophetic as he finished sixth on the driver's rankings, a remarkable improvement in just three years of F-1 racing.

But is that all for this very talented driver who, if nothing else, deserves at least one world championship? Says Nannini, 'All drivers aren't destined to be Alain Prost, but I'm surely going to go all out for it this season.' With good reason too, since he has been a victim of fate once again as the Benetton bosses have hired the services of ex world champion Nelson Piquet, relegating Nannini to the status of number two driver once again. 'It is nothing because we will be competing for the same team and no driver is bigger than a team.'

But what future does he foresee for himself? 'Maybe a drive for Ferrari' he says almost instantly. But then, that is every Italian boy's dream!

O.P. Malik

NEWSMEN FEATURES



SUNITA GODARA

Loneliness Distance



international acclaim. At London she is being granted "elite" status — free accommodation, hospitality and entertainment which include visits to a theatre of her choice. Her achievements should have been lauded in India.

But in India it does not pay to 'do it my way'. She candidly said that the restrictions in national camps and their rigid coaching schedules do not suit her and therefore she cannot improve in such stifling conditions. So with a training programme chalked out with the help of her husband she

trains in the hills of Shimla or in the Lodi Gardens and Nehru Stadium at Delhi.

All she desires is suitable encouragement from the Amateur Athletic Federation of India (AAFI). But in this country it does not pay to have the image of a loner or a rebel. Sunita's dreams of an Asiad marathon medal is receiving scant official help as she has an image of being a loner.

Significantly the London invitation came to Sunita due to her meritorious performances last year and expectedly were not routed through the federation. The athletics

WOMEN's marathon has come of age in India. People too are talking about them abroad. Quite encouraging! Slim and trim Suman Rawat and Sunita Godara are recognised names and both have been personally invited for prestigious international marathons. The 30-year-old Sunita, a

Sunita training with her husband Capt. Godara

self-taught athlete has been invited to participate in the renowned London marathon on April 22. Sunita was also invited for the Penang international marathon and road races competition on March 9, with full hospitality and air fare paid. That's terrific news!

For Sunita it has been a long winding road to



Of An Indian Long Runner

establishment in India regards Sunita as queer as she trains on her own, with a scientific training programme chalked out by her husband, Captain Dalbir Godara, who is in the armoured corps is doing a doctorate in marathon from Pune University. So he is fully entitled to train his wife. Sebastian Coe was trained by his father, Grete Waitz and Ingrid Kristiansen, world famous women marathoners, were trained by their husbands but the AAFI frown upon an Indian

Sunita on the victory podium at the Phuket marathon



husband-wife team.

Why is the AAFI being so bureaucratic, rigid and rule-bound? The reason is obvious and typical of the petty, myopic vision of many of our sports administrators. As Sunita does not participate in the endless training camps they cannot claim her as their own product. How petty can we get. Instead of helping this enterprising couple, the AAFI have always been a great hindrance.

Before she left for the Penang marathon (at Malaysia) the AAFI bluntly rejected her request to send her as India's representative and the entire expenses paid for. Sunita went on her own and luckily won the first prize of 5,000



"I am a full-time marathon runner. I have tried for jobs but never got anything satisfactory. The Railways offered me a job as a Head Clerk, which I refused to accept. After all, I have my pride. I am an M.A. in Public Administration, with diplomas in yoga and athletics from the NIS and I have written a Kip Fit book..." Sunita Godara

dollars (about Rs. 30,000) which paid for her expenses. When questioned about this unhelpful attitude federation secretary Lalit Bhanot replied;

"The Penang marathon was not on our list of international events."

Now that Sunita Godara is a trail blazer in Indian athletics and a do-it-yourself success

Training run in Patiala with security guard

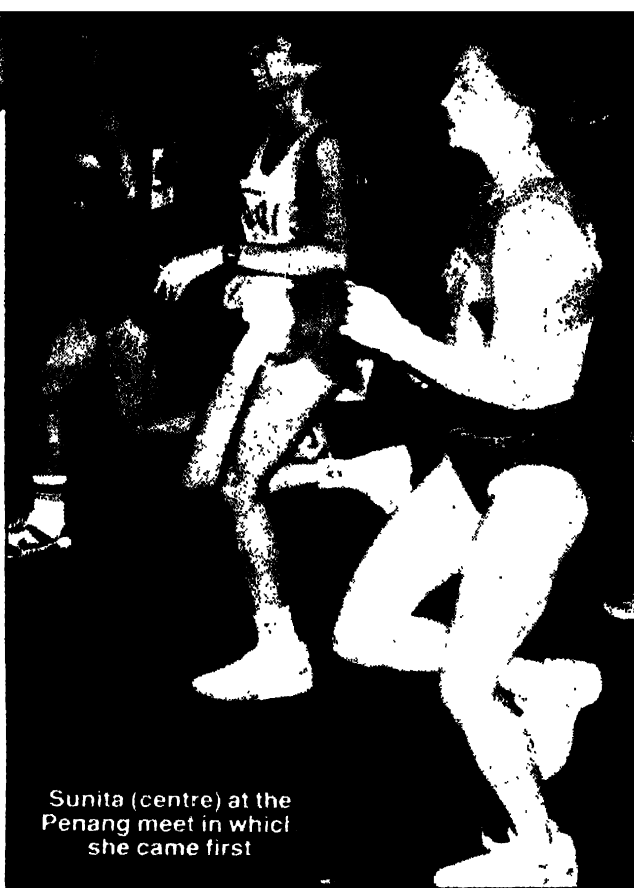
story, she expected better treatment from the AAFI. However, the federation officials like the proverbial leopard never change its stripes. They remained adamant about her request for financial aid for the London marathon. The reply, quite puerile; "The marathon has not been identified, as a medal-winning discipline for the 1990 Beijing Asiad."

Yet ironically, the AAFI are sending Suman Rawat for the Asia Cup marathon to Seoul on March 18. The Seoul organisers had asked India to send a team. It was hoped that Sunita and Suman, by far the best in India at present, would be automatic choices. But the axe fell on Sunita. Strange. Their contention was that Sunita did not run in a qualifying marathon in Allahabad in February.

Sunita counters by saying that she had a stress fracture then and could not run. Her past performance, two silver medals at Phuket (Thailand) international marathon and Mobil international marathon at Singapore and the recent gold medal at Penang could have been considered. Sunita was willing to sacrifice the London marathon, if sent to Seoul. But the AAFI have been oblivious to her pleas. Glasnost and Perestroika have not yet reached Indian athletics. The Iron Curtain has fallen in many countries, but not in Indian sports.

Being an iconoclast is expensive in India. There is little financial help. World class marathon is not just lonely and hard work but also very expensive. Sunita's training expenses for 1990 are as follows:

- Rs. 10,000 for 5 pairs of marathon shoes, each of which cost about Rs. 1,800 and have to be changed after every 1,000 km of running. Sunita runs about 100/150 km per week, so the shoes last about two months only.



Sunita (centre) at the Penang meet in which she came first

Purchase of one Gortex, one rain and one winter tracksuit and other running wear comes to about Rs. 5,000.

Rs. 10,000 on diet at the rate of Rs. 33 per day. Sunita does not get free diet at the Nehru Stadium, even though she is an Asian Games medal prospect.

- Rs. 10,000 as accommodation, either in Nehru Stadium or at Shimla. At least the SAI can let her stay free at the Nehru Stadium
- Rs. 10,000 for travel, Rs. 5,000 for physiotherapy and medicine and Rs. 10,000 as other expenses. Total cost is a grand Rs. 55,000. As Sunita says, as long as she wins, she can meet her expenses but it is a strain.

Being an iconoclast is disadvantageous in conservative India. Sunita epitomises the travails of the marathon woman treading her own path while the

All she (Sunita) desires is suitable encouragement from the AAFI. But in this country it does not pay to have the image of a loner or a rebel

establishment holds back the purse strings.

Her immediate requirement is Rs. 25,000, as air fare and expenses for massage for the London marathon. The organisers are looking after her board and lodging, from April 18—23. Sunita cannot foot her own bill as she is unemployed. Asked why, she candidly said: "I am a full-time marathon runner. I have tried for jobs but never got anything satisfactory. The Railways offered me a job as a Head Clerk, which I refused to accept. After all, I have

my pride. I am an M.A. in Public Administration, with diplomas in yoga and athletics from the NIS and I have written a "Keep Fit" book. Later I applied to the Haryana Govt. for the post of a Sports Officer but I'm yet to get a reply. Such refusals are very frustrating and hamper my preparations for international marathons as I have to search for sponsors and run from pillar to post, getting clearances and money."

For the London marathon, Sunita and her husband have approached DCM and Thums Up/Limca for financial aid. On her return from Penang, she hoped to get money for the London trip. Sunita is using the Penang trip, as a build up for the London marathon and will take part in the 25/30 km event there. In Malaysia, she is very popular as on Oct. 8, 1989, she won the Penang International marathon, beating England's renowned Leslie Watson to second place.

At London, Sunita hopes to better Asha Agarwal's national mark of 2 hrs. 43.47 mins. Last year, she improved her timings by an awesome 40 minutes. This year, she has shown the ever-improving trend and hopes to reach under 2 hrs. 40 mins. which should make her Asia class and win lots of prize money. If she does achieve it, it will be truly after a long and winding grind, aptly epitomising the "loneliness of a long-distance runner."

Navy Kapadia

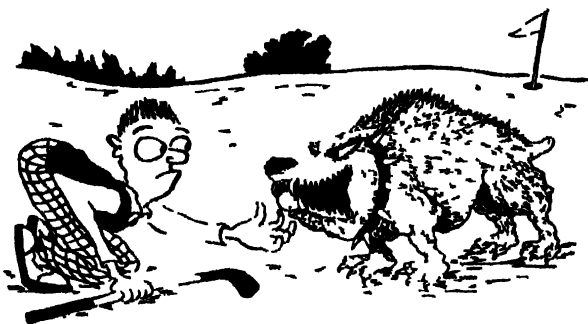
THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

CARE OF THE COURSE: HOLES IN BUNKERS.
BEFORE LEAVING A BUNKER A PLAYER SHOULD CAREFULLY
FILL UP AND SMOOTH OVER ALL HOLES AND FOOTPRINTS
MADE BY HIM



LEASER

RULE 19-1: BALL IN MOTION DEFLECTED OR STOPPED
IF A BALL IN MOTION AFTER A STROKE COMES TO REST IN
OR ON ANY MOVING OR ANIMATE OUTSIDE AGENCY, THE
PLAYER SHALL DROP THE BALL AS NEAR AS POSSIBLE
TO THE SPOT WHERE THE OUTSIDE AGENCY WAS WHEN
THE BALL CAME TO REST IN OR ON IT



LEASER

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME

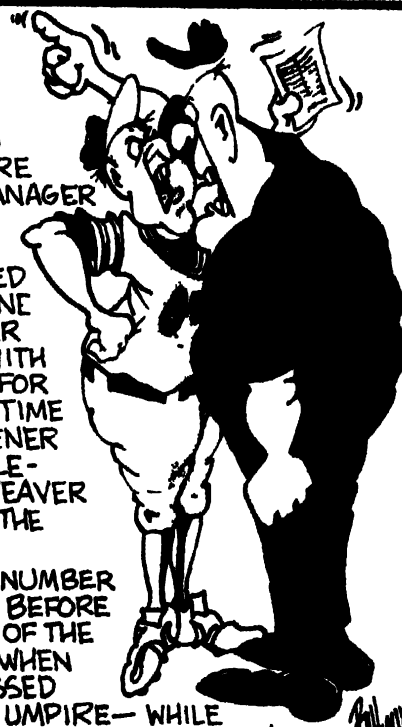
BY NASH & ZULLO



DURING A GOLD MEDAL BOUT AT THE 1952
OLYMPICS, FUTURE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF
THE WORLD, INGEMAR JOHANSSON, WAS DIS-
QUALIFIED FOR NOT THROWING A PUNCH!
AFTER SPENDING THE ENTIRE FIRST ROUND
BACK-PEDALING FROM THE U.S. BOXER, H.
EDWARD SANDERS, INGEMAR WAS DQ'ED
IN ROUND TWO FOR "NOT GIVING OF HIS BEST."

IN 1985
BALTIMORE
ORIOLES MANAGER
**EARL
WEAVER**
WAS EJECTED
TWICE IN ONE
DAY AFTER
ARGUING WITH
THE UMPs FOR
THE THIRD TIME
IN THE OPENER
OF A DOUBLE-
HEADER, WEAVER
WAS GIVEN THE
THUMB

HEAVE-HO NUMBER
TWO CAME BEFORE
THE START OF THE
NIGHTCAP WHEN
HE WAS TOSSED
OUT BY AN UMPIRE— WHILE
DELIVERING THE LINEUP CARD!



LEASER

Poor Performance

IN the recently-concluded World Cup hockey tournament in Lahore, the Indian team performed poorly. And there are really no excuses for the poor performance.

To think that we won eight Olympic gold medals in a row and were world champions once, we have really declined to an alarming extent. Now we are not eligible to take part in the Champions Trophy in Melbourne later this year.

Poor coaching is one of the reasons. Lack of stamina and an inability to score from penalty corners are some of the other reasons.

Frankly, I am, ashamed to think that a national game like hockey has declined so much.

S. BACHANJEET SINGH,
Hyderabad.

The Indian Dope Trick

YOUR cover story on the dope scandal (February 14) was a bit too late. However, on reading it, many of the truths of modern-day Indian athletics came to light.

It seems that many of our athletes have not realised that competitions are held for normal humans, those who have been training with no help from 'boosters'.

The Subrata Paul issue was really quite an embarrassing incident for the Indian team in Auckland. All along, we had condemned drugtaking by other athletes of other countries, little realising that the same thing was occurring in our own country.

Our image as a 'clean' nation has gone down the drain.

ROHIT MENON,
Trivandrum

Marvellous

THANKS for the marvellous interview with Joe Chang and Jeremy Coney. (*Sportsworld*, 28 Feb.) For the first time, we got an exclusive interview with the Chang family and we became

aware of the secrets of Chang's success.

The interview with Jeremy Coney was also very interesting. He said some truthful things about the Indian team. And he was indeed shocked and surprised, like we all were, at the dropping of Krish Srikanth, Ayub and Shastri. The picture of Steffi Graf was also very beautiful. Thanks for it.

NEELIMA GUPTA,
Rourkela.

Libellous

IN the 31 Jan issue, an article under the heading, 'Brain Damage' has questioned Gabriela Sabatini's intelligence.



Gabriela Sabatini

Well, I am an avid fan of hers and a tennis player at the same time and I take this as a personal insult. You had some audacity to print something so libellous on one of the finest women tennis players of our time.

SIDDHARTHA GOEL,
Lucknow.

Congrats

HEARTIEST congratulations to Mohd. Azharuddin for his impressive knock in the Auckland Test. Although I do have a certain sympathy for him because he could not score his double century.

It is after a long time that an Indian captain has been leading from the front with an impressive performance.

MONOJ KUMAR GHOSH
Jorhat,
Assam.

Surprised

I WAS surprised to see the decision given by the umpire to grant four runs to Hadlee in the final cricket Test at Auckland. The umpires had previously declared leg-byes. At the end of the day, Hadlee went to the umpire and told them that he had actually nicked the ball to his pads and then it had gone behind the stumps for four.

However, I wonder whether, if More had held the catch, Hadlee would have walked. Or is it that then he would have said that it was a leg-bye.

UMANG LUTHRA,
Ranchi

Mixed Fare

THE best four teams in the World Cup with different styles clashed in the semifinals. Despite the odd threat, their standings in the pools were justified. But the semi-finals provided a mixed fare.

The capable Aussies surprisingly played a rather indifferent and erratic game against the Pakistanis. While West Germany succumbed to the tactically brilliant Holland team.

In the finals, Holland refused to be swayed by the massive support for the Pakistani team and through sheer tactics and brilliant penalty conversions won the World Cup.

Congratulations to Holland!
B.S. VISWANATH
Bangalore

Disheartening

IT is (dis)heartening to read about Ganesh's ego clash with R.P. Singh on account of the latter's long hair. R.P. Singh is a brilliant player and he would have torn through the best defence in the world.

What does it matter that he has long hair? The important thing is that he is a good player. Tell me, if V.P. Singh tells Ganesh to shave off his moustache, would he do it? So, the point is irrelevant and it is time that one thought of the interests of the country first.
SURESH ANAND,
New Delhi.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 Which country was the Indian cricket team touring when Mrs Indira Gandhi was assassinated?
- 2 India's tour referred to above came to an abrupt end when the news of Mrs Gandhi's tragic death reached the venue of the second One-day international match between India and the host country. In that abandoned match an Indian player reached his then highest score in a limited-over international. Who was the player and what was his score?
- 3 Who were the first British football club to win the European Cup and when? Whom did they beat?
- 4 What does the word 'Sepak in 'Sepak takraw mean?

ANSWERS

- 1 Pakistan
- 2 D B Vengsarkar 94 n o
- 3 Celtic 1967 They beat Inter Milan 2 1
- 4 Kick

CHESS

Rafael 'Rafik' Vaganyan, the talented GM from Yerevan Armenia, won the 56th Soviet Championship at Odessa in December. Even in the absence of the super K's and Yusupov Salov and Ivanchuk it was a very strong event. He overtook Belyavsky and Dolmatov in the last round with this lovely ending: White Balashov Vs Black Vaganyan, Nimzo Indian, Odessa '89.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 c5 5 Bd3 Nc6 6 Nf3 Bxc3 + 7 bc3 d6 8 O-O e5 9 Nd2 O-O 10 d5 Ne7 11 e4 h6! This is an improvement on the normal 11—ng6. Black quickly prepares nh7 and f5 12 Re1 nh7 13 Nf1 f5 14 ef5 Bxf5 15 Ng3 Bxd3 16 Qxd3 Qd7 17 a4 Rf7 18 a5 Raf8 19 f3 Nf5 20 Nxf5 Rxf5 21 Rb1 R8f7 22 Rb2? This is a mistake. 22 Be3 followed by doubling rooks on the b-file would avoid the ensuing attack 22—Qd8! 23 Rxb7 Rxf3! 24 gf3 Rxb7 25 f4! Qh4! White hoped to

activate his bishop by 25—ef4 26 Bxf4 Rf7

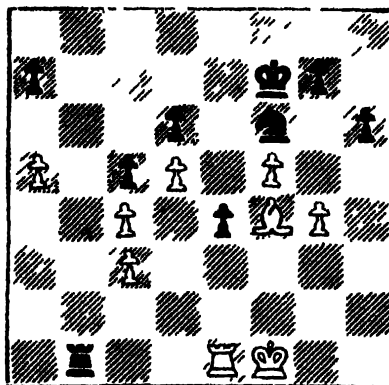
26 Qg3 Qxg3 + 27 hg3 e4 28 f5! If white takes by 28 Rxe4 then 28—rb1 29 Re1 Nf6 30 f5 Ng4 is winning. 28—Rb1 29 Kf1 Kf7 30 g4 Nf6 31 Bf4 (see diagram). Here Vaganyan spent 40 minutes in a position that is impossible to lose but difficult to win.

31 Rxe1 + 32 Kxe1 Nxe4 3 2—Ke7 33 g5 hg5 34 Bxg5 Kd7 35 Ke2 Kc7 36 Bxf6 gf6 37 Ke3 Kb7 38 Kxe4 Ka6 39 Kd3 Ka5 40 Kc2 Ka4 41 Kb2 a5 42 Ka2 draws by stalemate. Also Black cannot win by 31—Rb3 32 Bxd6 Rxc3 Bc5 33 a4 34 Bd4 Hxc4 35 Bxf6 Kxf6 36 Rd1! So he goes for the minor piece ending.

33 Bxd6 a6 34 Bxc5? Here 34 Ke2! Kf6 35 Bxc5 Kxf5 36 Bf8 activates the white pawns and should draw. This natural move is an error.

34 Ne5 35 Bxd4 Nxc4 36 Kf2 g6! 37 fg6 + Kxg6 38 Bb6 Kf6 39 Bc7 h5 40 Kx3 Kf5 41 Kf2 h4 (0-1). Neither 42 Bd8 h3 43 Bc7 e3 + 44 Kf3 Ne5 + nor 42 Bh2 Nxa5 43 d6 Nc6 44 d7 a5 45 Bc7 a4 hold any prospects.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

For the last two years, Hindustan Club has been inviting all the leading players of Calcutta for a bridge tournament at the end of the year. The winners in the inaugural year, fittingly considering the club's contribution to Indian bridge, was Bhowanipore Card Club but this year Eastern Railway won the event. Today's hand was from this year's event —

Dealer North

Both vul

NORTH (dummy)		EAST	
♠ A 3		♠ 10 8 7 4	
♥ 10 7 3		♥ J 8 5	
♦ 10 7 2		♦ K Q J	
♣ A Q J 9 4		♣ 7 6 2	

WEST		SOUTH	
♠ J 5		♠ K Q 9 6 2	
♥ A K Q 6 4 2		♥ 9	
♦ 8 6 5		♦ A 9 4 3	
♣ 8 3		♣ K 10 5	

Five clubs would have made for there were ten tricks on top with the aid of the fifth spade and if the defence started with a heart, a heart ruff would have provided the eleventh. The best defence would be to lead a diamond, ducked, and a second diamond. However South can win, cash two top spades and ruff a spade high, draw exactly two rounds of trumps ending in the South hand, cash the spade queen to shake off North's last diamond, ruff a diamond in the North hand and enter South with the last trump to enjoy the fifth spade and the fourth diamond. However, in that case there would have been no story to tell.

The contract at both tables was four spades after West had overcalled in hearts. Both Wests led two rounds of hearts and South could see that to ruff might ruin his ability to run the club suit if the trumps were 4 2. So both Souths let the second heart hold, throwing a diamond. The game could have been beaten with a diamond shift at this stage but both Wests woodenly continued with a third heart. Now the Souths were in charge — ruffing this they drew three rounds of trumps and gave up a fourth leaving themselves with no more trumps. The layout was exactly what the declarers had hoped for — East was out of hearts and had to return a diamond. Now the Souths won and ran the clubs to make their contracts. I take special pride in presenting this hand for the two declarers were my frequent partners, internationals Gobinda Singha and Debashis Ray.

Santanu Ghose

A Rover car and the Benson & Hedges Cricketer of the Year title are the catalysts that led to Imran Khan getting booed at the MCG. Did Dean Jones actually deserve it more?

CAR



"Hey, didn't I deserve that car, mate?" seems to be Dean Jones' line.

W

HEN Pakistan captain Imran Khan walked on to the turf of the MCG for the first of the Benson and Hedges finals against Australia, he was greeted by the alien sound of

booing. The 56,000 strong crowd, fuelled by an ill-timed outburst from a Melbourne newspaper, was giving vent to parochialism in rare vituperative fashion.

Earlier that week, during the last match of the preliminary series, Imran had bowled Pakistan to a last-over, one-run victory over the Australians in a day-night match at the Sydney Cricket Ground. It was one-day cricket at its best. Earlier games had been washed out in Sydney, but the match was in perfect summer weather and the crowds were out in force for what promised—and turned out to be—a thrilling match.

Australia, needing just six runs for victory, looked set to wrap up the match, but Imran had other ideas. Despite the fact that Australia had Simon O'Donnell (who had made an effective 38 so far) at the crease, Imran delivered the coup de grace in resounding fashion.

Marshalling his field carefully for that crucial last over, he dismissed the dangerous O'Donnell, took another wicket and prevented last man Terry Alderman from scoring the winning runs off the remaining deliveries.

That was where the trouble began. The next morning, a report by Rod Nicholson, the veteran cricket writer for 'The Sun' a Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid not known for its tact, voiced his

"Australians have to play twice as well as any touring team to win this award and when we go overseas, we get nothing"

WARS

opinion that Dean Jones, despite Imran's heroic last over should have been given the Benson and Hedges award for the International Cricketer of the year. Although the award for the cricketer for the year had not yet been announced, Nicholson had learnt that the Pakistani captain was the winner.

The story made the back page of the paper, with a prominent headline that no one could have missed "Star batsman Dean Jones has been pipped for the International Cricketer of the Year award," he wrote, "and the Aussie team is outraged. The award will go instead to

"Imran has brought to cricket the qualities fervent royalists wish Prince Charles had been able to bring to the British monarchy"

Pakistan captain Imran Khan, whose final four deliveries snared the \$72,000 Rover car that goes with the award."

"We have had a gutful", said one senior player last night, the report continued. Nicholson then quoted the player as saying, "Australians have to play twice as well as any touring team to win this award and when we go overseas, we get nothing."

Nicholson also quoted another Australian player as having said "It is

Would the Pakistan team of 1989-90 have been the same without Imran Khan?

NICHOLSON HARRIS



about time. In general, players are rewarded for their efforts. Nobody can deny that Imran Javed played better throughout the summer than any other player. Javed won the player of the series award for the one-day competition, which came with a gold tray and four champagne flutes valued at \$ 800, but how far can you drive that?

Nicholson, getting out the vitriol, wrote: "The Australians are genuinely annoyed, while going out of their way to say that it is disappointing to the players, to the detriment of the locals."

The reaction in the broadcast press was more even. Surprisingly, the same day, the report in *The Star* was obliquely criticized in *The Herald*, another Malaysian publication and associate of *The Star*.

Writes Mark Harding, the deputy sports editor of *The Herald*: "Who should have the car - Imran Javed or Allan Border? It's all the pondering who is the better fighter - Mike Tyson, or Bruce Douglas."



"When Imran went out to toss with Allan Border, the Pakistani captain wore a T-shirt that bore the legend, 'I'm sorry I won the car'"

That day, the *Herald* also carried a story about the car. The car was a Honda Civic, which was donated to the Malaysian Cricket Board by the Japanese company. The car was a gift from the Japanese company to the Malaysian Cricket Board. The car was a gift from the Japanese company to the Malaysian Cricket Board.

Of course Javed was upset to lose the international award by just a 1 point, but only anyone argues that Imran was not a worthy winner.

Yet, the damage had been done by the outbreak in *The Star*. For the first time when Imran went out to toss with Allan Border, the Pakistani captain wore a T-shirt that bore the legend, "I'm sorry I won the car."

Ironically, he announced that he would donate the car to another hospital, a gift project of the state his mother had started the times.

Nicholson later rectified the fact that Imran was donating the car to the

WHAT'S LIFE

HERO HONDA

...but the cricket writer had already done his bit to sway the public. The fact quoted later in the week as saying "If there is criticism, it is very petty. It is not as though I have asked anyone for the award. The voting was quite independent and obviously I am very pleased to get it. Criticism is something which you have to accept with dignity and grace."

But it was *The Age* which tore Nicholson's theory to shreds. Wrote the respected sportswriter, Peter McFarlane, "It used to be said of the MCC that it attracted some of cricket's most discerning crowds. Yet, after 56,000 people booed Imran, that accolade has to be withdrawn."

"What actually happened when Imran was booed was that a good many people threw away one of cricket's rare privileges. They blew into the air the chance to say thank you, goodbye and good luck to one of the finest spawn of this sport or any other."

"When Imran finally does retire—and



"When Imran was booed a good many people threw away one of cricket's rare privileges... to say thank you, goodbye and good luck to one of the finest spawn of this sport"

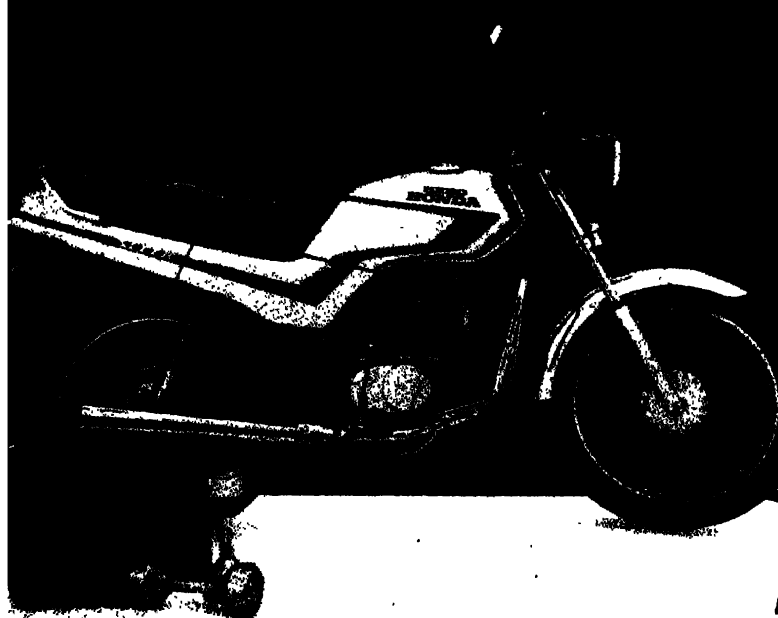
there are compelling reasons to believe that he is years and tours away from doing that, even though he is 37—the unforgiving statistics will show what a fine all-rounder he is. Only the third player to score 3000 Test runs and take 300 Test wickets.

"He has done that while representing, and mostly for the past decade leading, one of the most tempestuous cricketing nations. Imran has brought to cricket the qualities fervent royalists wish Prince Charles had been able to bring to the British monarchy... wisdom, a touch of controversy, single-mindedness, resilience, a charismatic blend of talent and leadership."

"One senses he will stay to lead Pakistan till his chosen successor, Wasim Akram, has been fully groomed. That should include a few short, sharp words about the one-day crowds in Melbourne: "Close yours ears to them. They are fools."

David McIlhatton, Melbourne

WITHOUT A LITTLE PASSION?



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SLEEK

LET THE PASSION OVERTAKE YOU.

CLASSIC INVITATION WEEKEND RACING

OF 'BRAVE WARRIORS' AND 'STYLISH GIRLS'



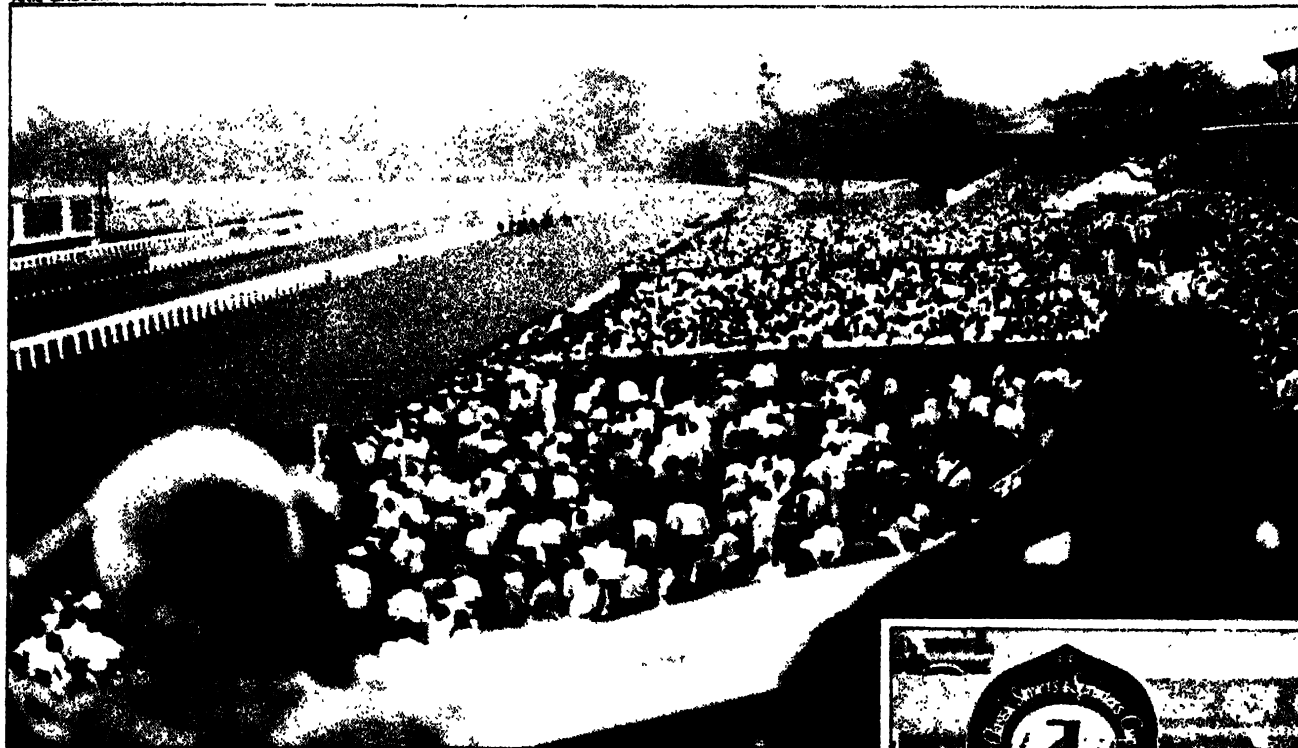
It was Calcutta's turn to host the ultimate weekend of Indian racing. The RCTC was the place to be on March 5th and 6th as Desert Warrior, Brave Dancer and Star Style Girl cornered all the glamour and the prize money

**It was only around the bend and into the home straight that Desert Warrior made a bid to win the Classic Turf Invitation.
(Inset) Jockey Peel Shroff after Desert Warrior's victory**

PHOTOGRAPH BY NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



ANIL GROVER



THE first weekend of March ushers in the two most important days of the Indian racing calendar and is called the Invitation Weekend. A veritable festival of racing, it rotates every year from one racing centre to another so that each of the five major race courses in the country can play host. Ever since I.T.C. entered the fray as corporate sponsors of the country's most talked about race it has assumed an added dimension with a truly 'Classic' blend.

The Classic Indian Turf Invitation is the *piece de resistance* of the weekend. It's the ultimate test for champions of their vintage, with the winner emerging as the greatest of the year. Run over a distance of 2400 metres only the very best 4-year-old race horses are invited to participate. Almost every one of the contenders has his own claim to fame having earlier won laurels in each of the five racing centres.

As a back up to this Classic event are two more races namely the 'Sprinters' Classic and the 'Stayers' Classic, which as the

The crowd at the Royal Calcutta Turf Club over the Invitation Weekend (inset)

Star Style Girl (in front) from Bangalore, jumped out smartly and lead from the word go to win the Sprinters' Cup

names themselves suggest decide the fastest of the equine breed and the best stayer over that gruelling distance of 3000 metres.

It was therefore, only fitting that Calcutta in its tercentenary year play host to the first Invitational Weekend of the '90s. Under the supervision of the Royal Calcutta Turf Club, the picturesque Calcutta Race course with the imposing backdrop of the Victoria Memorial was choc-a-block full, invaded by a sea of humanity made up of racing buffs from all over the country.

On Saturday, under a dull overcast sky punctuated at intervals by a nagging drizzle, turfites witnessed the making of a legend. Brave Dancer, a



RASHBEHARI DAS

six-year-old chestnut roan horse and the pride and joy of Calcutta was making his last appearance on a race track before being retired to stud. He was taking on the best stayers in the land in the Stayers Classic and if he could win, he would become India's leading stake money earner. On a soggy and rain soaked track it took the Dancer 3 minutes and 22 sec. to rewrite the record books and have his name inscribed in letters of gold having earned rupees 2.9 million for his exuberant and effervescent owner, Mr. Babi Nobis.

Then along came Star Style Girl, a chestnut filly from Bangalore, trained by Rashid Byramji and owned by Mr. Suresh Mahindra.



On a soggy and rain soaked track Brave Dancer (in front), the pride of Calcutta raced to victory in the Stayers' Cup.

(Inset) Brave Dancer, Robin Corner up, after winning the Stayers Classic

Hidden by Vasant Shinde, the daughter of Boy Trumpeter out of Next Move, she won in style. Jumping out smartly Star Style Girl shot into the lead from the word go and after that her challenge was come and get me. Nobody could match her pace and she came skating home a facile winner with the Bombay based Wanderlust in futile chase, while the Calcutta contender Anelisa was third, a shade in front of Zealot.

On a dead track, Star Style Girl had returned a time of 1 min 14 sec which under the circumstances was exceptional. Her form down South was good but most people felt that she was substandard. They had to eat their

words because Star Style Girl was the star that afternoon.

On the first Sunday of March the weather cleared and the sun came out to bathe the City of Joy in glorious sunshine and the crowds flocked to the racecourse. It was a spectacle of colour and it was like a who's who on the All-India racing circuit. The Baron Dr M A M Ramaswamy the business tycoon—Mr Vijay Mallia the leading breeders in the land like the Poonawalla brothers Cyrus and Zavaray, Maj Pradeep Mehra you name the person and he was there.

On such an afternoon the vast capacity crowd that had the race course bursting at its seams were treated to a truly classic display by a race horse named Desert Warrior. Trained by Altaf Hussain and ridden by Pesi Shroff, Desert Warrior was the favourite, the

public fancy with a reputation to defend after winning the Indian Derby in Bombay. He was top seed in the Masters Championship. Could he prove he was still number one?

It took the Warrior just 2 min and 40 sec as he went about his task with clinical precision and despatched the opposition with a truly magnificent and inspired performance.

With Pesi Shroff undeterred by the activity around him he allowed Desert Warrior to lop along at an easy pace until heads were turned for home.

Then Shroff asked the Warrior to change gears. The warrior slipped into overdrive so smoothly it would have made the owner of the latest Rolls-Royce green with envy. With Shroff just riding him hands and heels he glided away from them to win ever so comfortably from the Bangalore based Bizzarinni who was second while Sikander-E-Aazam from Hyderabad just held on to third place a short head in front of Calcutta's Aspirant.

It was the performance of a true champion by a horse who has now crossed the two million rupee mark with this bloodless victory in the Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup.

Cyrus J. Madan

ALL IN THE GAME

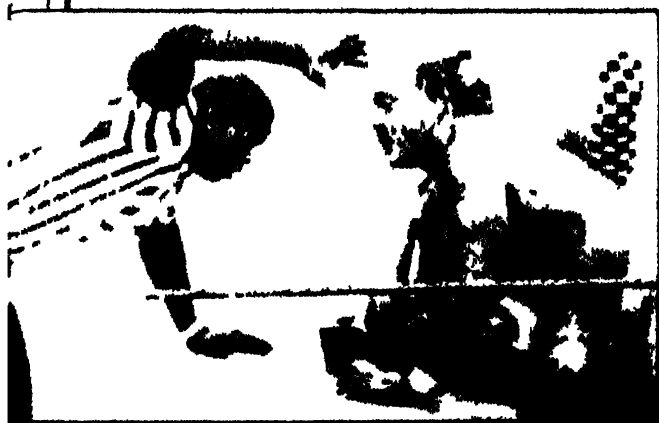
'BUSTER' BUSTS

Another myth

JAMES 'Buster' Douglas is savouring the fruits of his success. This time we are not referring to the millions he already stands to earn. This time 'irony of ironies', Buster was called in as referee to officiate one of the World Wrestling Federation title bouts in Detroit recently.

Douglas, as referee, counted out a victory for enormous Hulk Hogan, and then himself got into the act and floored 'Macho King', Randy Savage after the challenger slapped Douglas in protest.

Did you start to count late James?



A GLORIOUS REVIVAL

Of Argentine cricket

THESE are happy days for Argentine cricket. An MCC cricket team led by Paul Parker of Sussex has left for the Falkland shores for the first time since the war, eight years ago.

Also in the summer, an Argentine team leaves for Holland to compete for a place in the World Cup. Although cricket was first played in Argentina in 1806, it is not as many may imagine, a crowd puller. This leaves the Argentine Cricket Association, high and dry and much short of moolah.

Barney Miller, the association's London representative is raising money for the trip to Holland by exploiting and honing his skills with the guitar. Miller, an Argentine folklore guitarist also draws on all his experience and speaks at Cricket dinners. Motivation, as many say, is the key word.

WESTERN FANS

'Fan' Eastern egos

IT is by now well known that sport stars in the Soviet bloc are just ideological pawns who, by their prowess on the track and field, promote the supremacy of Communism against Western democracy.

But, the times they are a 'changin'. The athletes are now realising how little they were trusted only now, do they receive fan mail, many of them years old. Ute Richter, fourth in the javelin (1980 Olympics) got two letters, sent from West Germany in 1982 and 1983 asking for her autograph. After receiving letters dated 1984, weight-lifter Frank Mavrus said, 'I heard this was happening, but, thought it was impossible.'

It clearly is. Female rowers received fan-mail in bundles (dated mail). The mail would be monitored by the Stasi, a secret police group.

Now, the joys of Western sport are opening up, with the East getting role-models like John McEnroe, Mike Gelling, Vinny Jones, Don King.. Oh! Happy days.



CHANDIGARH

Junior National Gymnastics

IN the recently-concluded junior national gymnastics championships, Haryana emerged the champions in the boys section. Spearheaded by Balbir Singh, who won the compulsory and optional exercises programme, as well as Sumit Kumar who won the vaulting while Ajay Kumar took the compulsory vaulting horse, this was the first time they have won the trophy.

In the girls section, Punjab were easy winners. With two internationals in their team - Parveen and Paramjit both of DVA School and members of the Indian team which toured GRD under the cultural exchange programme last year - they encountered minimal resistance. Paramjit excelled on the uneven bars, the beam and the vaulting horse as the Punjab team got 281.74 points. Bengal were runners-up with 272.69 points.

In the all-round competition for men, Balbir Singh took the overall best gymnast title while in the girls section, an injured Poonam Chabra of Bhartiya Public School, Ambala was good enough for the all-round best gymnast title.

Parveen Kashyap

TRIVANDRUM

Southern Railway Athletics

PALGHAT District claimed the team's championship in the men's and women's section of the 32nd Southern Railway Inter Divisional Athletic Championship which concluded here recently.

Six new meet records were created during the championship. In the women's section, Dolly K Joseph of Palghat division (PGT) won a record gold in the 400m



The victorious Punjab team in the girls section

hurdles clocking 62.7 sec. Molly Chacko (PGT) bettered her own record in the 3000m, with a time of 10.15.2 sec. Sherry Mathew and Bindhu (both representing PGT) set new marks in the 200m sprint (25.4 sec) and high jump (1.61 mts) respectively.

In the men's section, Rakesh Kumar (Bangalore) threw the javelin to a new distance of 64.18m. Record holder C. Rai had to be satisfied with the second spot. Eldo (Trivandrum) jumped a new height of 4.50 m in the pole vault.

N. Annavi of Trichy won a gold (high jump 2 mts), and silver (110 m hurdles, 15.3 sec) and became the men's individual champion. Geetha (Bangalore) bagged two golds (100 m hurdles, 15.1 sec, 3000 m, 10.24.2 sec) to emerge the best women athlete.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

MADRAS

Sub Junior Carrom championships

MAHARASHTRA, not unexpectedly, dominated the proceedings at the sixteenth National and Inter-State sub

junior carrom championships held in the city during the last four days of February.

Traditionally Maharashtra along with Tamil Nadu, have been the strongest states in this 'great little game'. This time they claimed four of the six titles up for grabs. Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad shared the remaining two titles.

Maharashtra claimed both the boys and girls team titles. In the boys final they defeated Tamil Nadu 2-1 after a keen tussle for supremacy. Ashok Gurav defeated Dominic Raj but Shakthivel levelled matters for the hosts by beating Praveen Madyalkar. The result then hinged on the all-important doubles and in this Prashant More and Sekhar Bansode defeated Kubendra Babu and Kubendran to clinch the issue for Maharashtra.

In the girls team championship, Maharashtra won all their three matches in the four-team round robin. They scored 2-1 victories over Tamil Nadu, Hyderabad and Assam. Hyderabad who were the holders finished second, defeating Assam 3-0 in a play-off.

When the individual events commenced, Maharashtra maintained their supremacy by winning two of the four titles and finishing runners-up in a third. Ashok Gurav, a 13-year-old Bombay student claimed the boy's title after an engrossing duel with

Kubendra Babu of Tamil Nadu.

Gurav won the first game 25-5 but Kubendra Babu, the 14-year-old son of former national champion S. Dilli claimed the second 25-17. Babu seemed well on his way to victory when he led 21-5 in the decider, needing only four points for the title. But Gurav, striking a purple patch, reeled off 20 points to take the game 25-12 and with it the match. B. Jyothi, a slip of a lass from Hyderabad reigned supreme in the girl's singles event. A ninth standard schoolgirl, 14-year-old Jyothi was in fine form throughout the competition. In the final, she proved too strong for Tamil Nadu's G. Revathi whom she defeated 25-8, 25-9.

Jyothi, in fact, was in line for a double. But she and C. Alpa lost in the girls doubles final to the Maharashtra pair of Manisha Nagaonkar and Manasi Paradkar 12-25, 1-25.

Much was expected from Tamil Nadu who were holders in all three events for boys. But the hosts finished with only one title, the boys doubles, which was won by Shakthivel and Dominic Raj. They beat Prashant More and Lakshman Avadutta of Maharashtra in a three-game thriller, 23-25, 25-10 and 25-24.

Ten State Units Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Hyderabad, Kerala, Manipur, Goa, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu took part in the four-day meet. Totally, about 120 boys and girls in the age group of 14 and below participated.

Incidentally, for the first time in a national championship, the new laws of carrom as adopted by the International Carrom Federation in July last year were followed.

Partab Ramchand

INTERNATIONAL CARROM FEDERATION S & SPORTS



The Maharashtra boys receiving the trophy from Test cricketer K. Srikanth

teams took part in the men's and junior events.

In the men's final, North Eastern Railway beat Nagaon 75-59. In the junior boys section, Nagaon beat Guwahati 59-45. In the women's group, Nagaon beat Guwahati 48-44.

Mukut Medhi

The Junior Boys champion: Nagaon

TRIVANDRUM

A New Project

IN KEEPING with the motto 'Catch them young' the Kerala Sports Council chalked out a project 'Operation Olympia'—a long-term coaching programme to nurse young talent and produce sportsmen of international calibre.

According to Mr. K.



ASSAM

Inter-District Basketball

THE tenth Inter-District basketball championships was held at Nehru Stadium. About 20

Unnikrishnan Nair Assistant Protocol Officer in the Government Secretariat, who prepared the report for the sports council the project aims at making sports an integral part of the curriculum in the educational centres, creating an awareness in society about the usefulness of sport and fitness

There are 1000 panchayats 48 municipalities and three corporations in Kerala. The project proposes one sports centre in each panchayat two in each municipality and three in each corporation. One hundred



Unnikrishnan: brain behind the project

children (of the seventh standard) will be admitted in each centre which will bring the total trainees to 10,400.

They will undergo continuous training for four years. In the fifth year, 100 trainees from these will be selected to each of the 14 district centres. At the district centres, the trainees will be provided with board and lodging and all their expenses will be met. The training will continue for a period of two years.

From 1400 trainees at district centres, 100 of the most talented will be taken to the state-level training centre, by which time

they will be about 18 years old. They will be at the State Centre for four years and will be given training in athletics, aquatics, football, volleyball, basketball etc.

Unnikrishnan pointed out that even in a well-to-do family not even 20% of the total income is spent for food. This affects the growth of the younger generation. Hence it is envisaged that all the trainees be provided supplementary food at the cost of Rs 5 per day.

A major hurdle is the cost (Rs 107 crores) for the project. But Unnikrishnan was of the view that private agencies may be approached for sponsorship. UNESCO has also shown interest in the implementation. The Sports Council Authorities had released a press note six months ago that as a pilot project this scheme would be introduced in three panchayats. Since then nothing has been heard of the matter. **Sajeer Kumar T.K.**

BOMBAY

National Hard Court Tennis

NATIONAL champion and top-seed Zeeshan Ali expectedly dominated the Four Square National hard court tennis championship held at the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association courts at the Cooperage. Bombay recently

He defeated Enrico Piperno 6-2 7-6 (7-5) in the men's finals. In the women's section, third seeded Aradhana Reddy defeated Krishnamurthy Janaki, 6-1 6-1 to lift the title.

Zeeshan Ali also completed a double when, in partnership with Piperno, they defeated Naredranath and K G Ramesh 6-3, 7-6 (7-2). Ali took the top prize of Rs 16,000 and picked up another Rs 3,000 for his doubles triumph. Aradhana Reddy earned Rs 7,500 for her efforts.

Mr Virendra Sagar, the MSLTA President gave away the prizes.

M.P. Suresh



Zeeshan Ali: a creditable win

PSCB Badminton

RAJEEV BAGGA of HPCL and Indian Oil's Deepti Thanekar produced scintillating badminton to regain singles titles at the Petroleum Sports Control Board meet held at the Juhu Gymkhana Club Court. Bagga, who had a stiff time in the semis against Milind Ghate, won in straight games, defeating Bhushan Akut of BPCL 15-11 15-9.

Deepti Thanekar the Commonwealth semi-finalist had a tough time against Sudha Padmanabhan. Both the players from Indian Oil played their hearts out in the three-set duel.

Sudha looked an improved player but Deepti seemed to have the upper hand most of the time. Error prone in the first game, Sudha came back in the second

and produced drops and half smashes to pick up vital points

In the clincher Sudha was leading 5-2 but errors on her part in the later stages of the game cost her the set and the match. Levelling at 7-7 Deepthi wore Sudha down with her down the-line smashes and perfectly executed drops to wrap up the tie.

The men's doubles was won by Pradeep Iyengar and Miling Ghata of BPCL while the veteran doubles was won by former international Nandu Natekar and A. Sapre of HPCL.

RAJKOT

Amarsinghji Cricket

ONE of the popular cricket tournaments of Gujarat was won by Rajkot Railway recently. In a one-sided final Rajkot Colts were defeated by Rajkot Railway by five wickets in the prestigious Amarsinghji Cricket Tournament at the Municipal Corporation Ground.

Deepthi Thanekar champion once again

Setting a target, Rajkot Colts managed only a moderate 151 for 9 in their allotted 40 overs. Rajkot Railway got themselves on the winning track with ridiculous ease, making the required runs to win the match in 35.5 overs. Y. Jadeja and Brij Datta scored 30 runs each.

H.P.

Tajawala Memorial Cricket

JAMNAGAR District XI won the Tajawala Memorial Inter-district One-day Cricket Tournament in a convincing fashion when they defeated Junagadh District XI by four wickets in the final played recently at the Municipal Corporation Ground.

Chasing a modest target of 142 in 30 overs, Jamnagar XI romped through with four wickets in hand. Intelligent batting by Bhavin Mehta and Adejya made the triumph fairly easy for their side. The former made a brave 55 while the latter a breezy 33 for Junagadh District XI. Praful Kavthatha claimed two wickets.

Earlier, Junagadh District XI was shot out for a meagre 142 runs with the wicket-keeper in chief being Shubh Bhogayta bagging as many as four wickets. The State Ranji players Raju Badiyani and Nilesh Odedi offered some resistance with an individual contribution of 40 and 31 respectively but could not stave off the eventual collapse.

Sudhir Bhogayta of Jamnagar District XI was named Man of the Match for his devastating bowling. Mrs. Prafullaben Tajawala, widow of the late Haribhai Tajawala (who was the president of the Saurashtra Cricket Association when he passed away not long back) gave away the Tajawala Trophy to the winning team.

Harishkumar Pandya



Marco Van Basten: The Artiste

A

t his best he almost unmistakably transcends the physicality of his sport, striving and often succeeding to raise his craft to an unbelievable level of pure visual delight bordering on the aesthetic. Marco Van Basten is his name.

Even when he was young, a teenager rather when his talents still awaited the requisite honing that breaks the path to celebrityhood, there was no mistaking that he was headed for greatness. They—the press, the public and the connoisseurs—hailed his advent as one of those inevitable phenomena that happens to soccer from time to time—to provide it with a fresh spell of magic. Those who saw the raw, young Van Basten were immediately instilled with a sense of confidence, so much so that Ajax Amsterdam did not even mind selling their star Wim Kieft, the 1982 Golden Foot winner, a year after he was crowned Europe's top marksman—on the obvious assumption that their new 17-year-old recruit would provide even greater momentum to the club's unstoppableity.

The trust in the future—in Van Basten—proved right. Van Basten blossomed and continued to grow in stature till the world saw in him the hallmarks of an immortal. Van Basten scored 128 league goals for Ajax at a rate of almost one a game before being sold for £1.5 million last summer to AC Milan.

During that phase of his growing career, Van Basten ran into a most fruitful spell at the start of the 1983–4 season when he scored 12 goals in the first seven league games, including a hat-trick in an 8–2 win over Feyenoord.

He forged further ahead to notch up a total of 28 goals that season and finished as Golden Boot runner up to Ian Rush.

The following season Van Basten scored 12 league goals and hit five in a single European cup match against Red Boys of Luxembourg.

In 1985–86, the Dutchman tasted something he had been hankering after ever since big time football became part of his life. The Golden Boot, the undisputed recognition of a high class striker in European football—on the strength of 37 goals in 26 league games.

The following season Van Basten collected another 31 and not only skippered Ajax to victory in the Cup Winners' Cup, but scored their winner in the final against Lokomotive Leipzig.

Van Basten replaced Mark Hateley in Milan, missed most of the first season due to injury, but returned to score several vital goals as substitute.

To top it all, Van Basten stole the show at the European Championship finals with the top scorers' award, his five goals, including a hat-trick against England, and a most memorable winner in the Final against the Soviet Union) as well as the top player's crown.

As his talent matured, his repertoire enriched. And the difference between Marco Van Basten and his contemporaries began to emerge. He is of a special breed, and he knows it. Inspired by his genius and its unparalleled force, Van Basten gradually came to look upon himself as an artiste, almost a creator.

And the attitude found more and more explicit expression in the delicate grace of his movement, his style, his ballplay, his whole athletic response to football. The beauty that resulted became so palpably aesthetic that one TV producer superimposed the images of the Van Basten movements on those of Holland's leading ballet stars.

It was a revelation. And Italia '90 too is likely to be a revelation, with the world rediscovering the inherent graces of the game they love. ●

At his best he almost unmistakably transcends the physicality of his sport, striving and often succeeding to raise his craft to an unbelievable level of pure visual delight, bordering on the aesthetic...



INJURY TIME!

Three high-profile footballers Ruud Gullit, Alexie Mikhailichenko and Gianluca Vialli are down with serious injuries. Will they recover in time for the World Cup in June?

S

OCER's battle of the wounded knee takes a savage twist

In Milan, Ruud Gullit works through a solitary, excruciating routine bent on defying

predictions that he will not make the World Cup and may never compete again

While doubts remain, and while his new \$1.4 million a year contract until 1993 is put on ice, Gullit's club, AC Milan, has supposedly taken an option on a potential replacement, Alexie Mikhailichenko

But after practising with Soviet comrades in Italy, Mikhailichenko is suddenly closer to Gullit in spirit than anyone expected. His knee became shot through with pain, his mind riddled with fear. How cruel this twist of fate.

Through swelling that makes injuries difficult to diagnose, doctors suspected a broken

kneecap. Mikhailichenko's World Cup looked as much a race against time as Gullit's.

I hope the doomsayers are wrong. I hope the Dutch right knee and the Soviet left are in good shape by June.

Gullit has already needed nine months' convalescence. His damage was a knot of tangled cartilage and fragmented bone exacerbated by risking his future so that Milan could win the European Champions' Cup last May. Mikhailichenko, by contrast, was told a busted kneecap requires straightforward surgery.

From bitter experience—a "simple" kneecap fracture ended my prospects years ago—I break out in a sweat on the Soviet's behalf. No surgery can be taken for granted. No two injuries heal alike. No joint obeys a specific time schedule to heal.

Indeed, we should no more compare Gullit and Mikhailichenko as patients than as performers. Mikhailichenko powerfully athletic, generates great depths of lung power beyond most contemporaries. He shoots

A LONELY man, Gullit mistrusts journalists after the Italians luridly reported his divorce last year. He has two young daughters for company...



Gullit and Marco Van Basten after the European championship triumph. Will Van Basten be left alone in Italy?

well, he backs up teammates. The very model of consistency. But he is no Gullit.

Gullit in full motion is genius whose huge stride can move him into areas few know exist. When his mind trusts his body there is no more natural team leader. Yet inside his head as much as inside the right knee there is now confusion.

A lonely man, he mistrusts journalists after the Italians luridly reported his divorce last year. He has two young daughters for company. By morning he cycles and by evening he attends physiotherapy and positive thinking sessions. Conflicting voices fill his head.

"Don't do anything stupid, don't risk the rest of your playing days by coming back too soon," Johan Cruyff, a former coach, has counseled.

"Think of me," teammate Marco van Basten might say. "Think how bad my two ankles were before the 1988 European Championship and how quickly I was able to come off the substitutes' bench to score goals for Holland."

Unfortunately, Italy is soccer's pot of gold, but no mecca for medicine.

Gullit retreated to Belgium, to an orthopaedist, Marc Martens, for a third operation after wildly fluctuating Italian medical efforts.

Likewise, Gianluca Vialli, the darling of Italian soccer, has

COME the World Cup, I fear Vialli will be pumped full of pain killer and sent out to perform...your guess is equal to mine as to what will be left of the most coveted Italian of his time

ventured abroad to be told something quite new about his persistent foot injury.

When Vialli played without inspiration much of last year, the media castigated him. Too rich, too spoilt, too disinterested, they said. He didn't dare cry aloud about the ache that filled his right boot whenever he set foot on the turf.

When a bone in the foot splintered last December, Sampdoria's specialist encased the leg in plaster and suggested that six to eight weeks would cure all. The pain is still with Vialli. Sampdoria sent him to Barcelona, whose experts diagnosed a permanent fault caused by the way he runs, bearing the weight on the outside of the foot.

Now what? Build up his shoe and his boot? Teach him a new gait?

Come the World Cup, I fear Vialli will be pumped full of pain killer and sent out to perform. He, after all, is the only current Italian his nation trusts to score goals (he has a record 11 in 42 matches for the national team).

Your guess is equal to mine as to what will then be left of the most coveted Italian of his time, for whom Sampdoria turned down \$9.6 million from Naples two years ago, for whom it has refused to name a price to Juventus.

Rob Hughes

Photographs: Coloursport



THESE countries have their history

Uruguay has its football," said Ondino Viera of Uruguay, to noted scribe Mr Brian Glanville during the 1966 World Cup. Whatever be the romantic truth about this observation, Uruguay has been regarded as a tiny nation but a footballing giant.

Forty years have flown since Uruguay's last triumph in 1950. Twenty since its semifinal entry in 1970, Mexico. If it has to maintain its credibility of a forgotten giant, this tiny South American state must finish in the last four in Italy. Or else its triumph in the Copa America and the Copa Libertadores de America, will not compensate, however impressive it may be in South American soccer.

Forming a valuable part of the South American "Big Three" Uruguayan players have always been regarded in terms of pure skills, marginally inferior to the Argentines and Brazilians. But the Uruguayans score over their rivals as far as courage and guts are concerned. A combination, which is immediately disconcerting to their rivals.

Not surprisingly, some of the most skilful players of the world have been products of this "Purple Land". Players like Pedro Cea, Hector Scarone, the two Andrades (uncle and



nephew), the two Varelas (also uncle and nephew), Juan Alberto Schiaffino (who could easily find a permanent place in an all time first 22 list), Ladislav Mazurkiewicz (goalkeeper), Pedro Rocha, Fernando Morena, and now the two heroes in Enzo Francescoli and Ruben Sosa.

Their clubs too Nacional and Penarol have more than matched the national squad's achievements by consistently winning the highest laurels.

Italy 1990 will be Uruguay's ninth World Cup. With Washington Tabarez as the new manager, and the foreign based players deciding the team strength, it is intriguing to see where they stand in Italy.

The 1989 Copa America tournament provided a clue.

As champions of the 1983 and 1987 tournaments, Uruguay had its best squad available in 1989 but finished second to Brazil having lost a total of three matches. Two in the first round, to Ecuador and fierce rivals Argentina and one in the final to hosts, Brazil. Pitted against Argentina, Ecuador, Chile and Bolivia in Group II, they finished second, with 4 points, to Argentina, who finished first with 6 points.

URUGUAY

Progressing to the final round, they finished the South American runners-up, with four points in three games. Wing striker Ruben Sosa was the best player on view, scoring four goals. Enzo Francescoli and Ruben Paz (the hero of the 1981 Copa Oro won by Uruguay), were flashy.

Goalkeeper Zeoli and right wing back, De Leon, formed a formidable defence, saving several dangerous situations. As a whole, they were surprisingly inconsistent. And belied their expectations.

Succeeding Mr Omar Borrás, Mr Tabarez now admits that you cannot



makes saints out of rowdies. Instead of purifying their conscience, change their technique.

Consequently, he has retained only four of the 1986 squad. They will defend all the way. Then score on the breakaway. But will be capable of a sustained onslaught on the opponent's goal, once the chips are down.

The 1-4-4-2 formation used in the 1989 Copa America championship is being retained. From the 1987 squad three players are being retained.

Manager: Washington Tabarez
Colours: Light blue shirts. Black shorts. Black stockings
Opponents: Group E (Verona & Udine): South Korea. Spain. Belgium.
Previous World Cup appearances: 1930. Champions. 1950: Champions. 1954: Fourth after losing third place match to Austria. 1962: First round elimination. 1966: Quarterfinalists. 1970: Fourth after losing third-place match to W. Germany. 1974: First round elimination. 1986: second round elimination.

Midfielder-striker Enzo Francescoli (Olympique Marseille), is getting a second chance to redeem himself, having been misused by Borras in Mundial 1986, Mexico.

If he flows, with good support from Antonio Alzamendi (Logrones, Spain) in midfield and Ruben Sosa in attack, he could become the hero in Italy. Particularly if the 1985 wonderboy Carlos Aguilera also strikes form.

At his best Francescoli is devastating. Lean and of medium height, he is quick to spot openings and is quick and explosive on the ball. He is also a splendid dribbler, when demanded.

He is Tabarez's ideal attacker from deep positions, like Pele was for Brazil. And at 27 years, he has time on his side for a third World Cup appearance.

Rubens Paz, at 30 years, who has changed clubs very frequently, is now with Genoa, Italy. He is to be the other creator in midfield using his stylishly exquisite left foot to advantage.

Antonio Alzamendi at 33 years is virtually in his second and last World Cup. Voted the 1986 'Player of the Year' for South America, he may strike a good rapport with Sosa, the other short, strong and fast winger.

The final squad could have Zeoli at goal,

stylish and acrobatic. The defenders are most likely Herrera, De Leon, Gutierrez and Dominguez with Pablo Bengoechea as a substitute. The formidable midfield will perhaps see Correa, Ostolaza, Paz, Francescoli, Perdomo and Aguilera, in action, with changes according to whatever strategy is adopted.

The strikers will naturally be Sosa and Alzamendi as first choices. Aguilera, if he does not play, midfielder could be an all out striker, if Sosa or Alzamendi are unable to play for any reason. Ruben da Silva.

Martinez and Pereira are three other strikers waiting on the wings.

On paper, this is a very strong squad. And Mr Tabarez is seeking a blend. Surely if soccer is an international game, one has to seek a blend. Not be insular. Tabarez's blend is, the discipline and tactical sophistication of European play in South American style, with natural ball skills and inventiveness.

Mr Tabarez is satisfied with his group opponents. Group E is going to be fiercely contested. With the South Koreans now confident of defeating the Uruguayans, it is unlikely that the latter will not turn bitter and rowdy when the chips are down. Belgium, the second raters of world soccer, and Spain will add a lot of suspense.

It is very interesting to see who goes through to the next round. Saints? Or sinners?

By Pallab Mukherjee



PEOPLE

NADIA THE ENIGMA

SHE was doing okay when she stunned the world with all those perfect scores in Montreal. Not that she does not stun the world now—for her achievements as far as her private life is concerned should also get her a score of 10.

Yes, Nadia Comaneci stunned the press when she announced her forthcoming marriage. Not to the man she lives with in Los Angeles, but to her 'best friend' in Bucharest, computer programmer Mihai Vasilescu.

Till her recent announcement, Nadia's friends in the US thought she was crazy about rugged freelance roofer Constantin Panait, a 36-year-old, married, father of four. Together they shared a one-bedroom apartment in Los Angeles since he helped her flee from communist Rumania. But Nadia appeared on Tokyo television saying Mihai was the real love of her life.

She finished by saying, "We will get married when he arrives. He is quite tall and handsome." But then someone quipped, "I'll believe it when I see it. I've never heard his name before."



Nadia does a Calamity Jane

SUPER SEVE

SEVERE Ballesteros apart from being a class golfer is now being hailed as a 'saviour' of sorts. This rare title was conferred upon him after a fishing trip almost turned to disaster (not for him).

The Spanish superstar golfer saved a man who had fallen into the sea. The incident occurred when Ballesteros was returning to the harbour near his luxury hotel, near Dubai after an angling expedition. In almost total darkness the man, a deck hand, fell from a nearby quay and Ballesteros, who was in Dubai for the Emirates Airline Desert Classic, was on the spot to pick him up from the water. A second man also fell in and later got four stitches for a gash in the leg.

Seve later said, "I was glad I was there. I was concerned about their welfare and did not hesitate in jumping in." Typical Spanish What say?



Super Seve Ballesteros

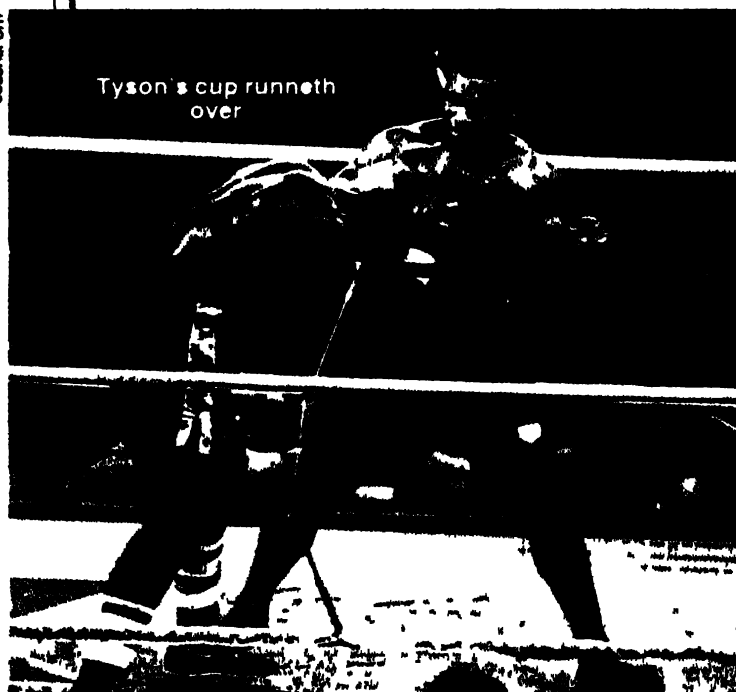
MIKE'S HASSLES

MIKE Tyson's problems seem to be at an all-time high. After the tenth round KO by Buster Douglas, Mike came home only to be shattered by the news of his sister's death. Tyson's sister, 25-year-old Denice Anderson died mysteriously at her home in New York. Denice was the ex champ's closest relative, the only one he ever chose to visit.

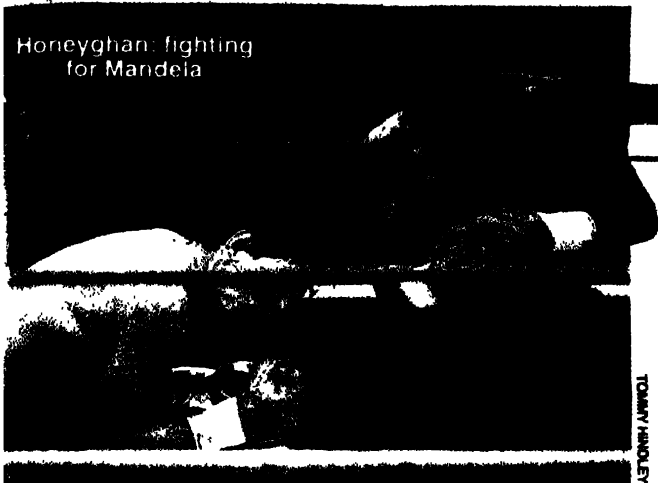
Tyson got the news when he was at his home in Albany secluded from the rest of humanity.

Tyson is estranged from his brother and never speaks to his father. His mother, who was divorced, died when he was 16. His sister's death was not the only problem troubling Tyson—24 hours earlier he was accused of being the father of a dancer's baby boy. The mother Trene Archie, claimed in a paternity suit that he was the father. "I don't love him," she said. "I just want him to acknowledge his son and help him financially." Another scandal coming up Mike?

Tyson's cup runneth over



Honeyghan: fighting
for Mandela



CHARITABLE LLOYD

WELTERWEIGHT champ Lloyd Honeyghan has developed a charitable outlook just before his forthcoming fight. The Jamaican born Londoner was in a position to make known his views against racism when the WBA ordered him to defend his title against a South African and Lloyd responded dramatically. He stressed his views against racism by holding his WBA belt over a rubbish bin. Now he's gone and dedicated his next fight against Mark Breland, to Nelson Mandela.

Honeyghan in this fight will try to regain the WBA title that he threw away in 1986. But his problems with the WBA continue (courtesy: the dustbin episode). Elias Cordova, championship committee chairman of the WBA said that Honeyghan would box over his dead body and to make matters worse, Honeyghan was not qualified because the WBA refused to give him a rating. He did get it later but only through diplomatic approaches. Honeyghan has put on the war paint now: he's shaved half his head, emulating an African tribe. Let's hope Breland doesn't shave the other half.

ADULTROUS TESSA

HARDLY had Tessa Sanderson finished lambasting Fatima Whitbread in print, accusing her of coaching the Aussies, than fate caught up with her and now she's on the other side of the firing line.

The Olympics Golden Girl was accused of having an affair with a married body-builder. An accusation which Tessa vehemently denies. Add to that charges of her having had sex with this so-called fitness instructor and you have a real daddy of a gossip on your hands. Tessa off course denies charges that she even had sex with this man, even though she had spent the night with him on a double bed. This defies all pathological argument. Attorney George Carmen said, "At the very least you would raise your eyebrows at the credibility of the suggestion. It strains belief that a virile young man and an attractive young woman like Tessa Sanderson share a double bed and have no sexual contact." Heh, heh, how, bout it Tessa?



THE Yanks do not believe in cheap talk. So if you want the big wigs to talk, you gotta pay, and pay through your nose. Wanna know the rates the big 'uns charge just for delivering a speech? Check this list out. This is the approximate per speech asking (and usually fetching) price for some of Yanklands most popular speech-makers:

TALK MONEY!

WHO	WHAT	HOW MUCH
Ronald Reagan	Former President	\$50,000
Arnold Palmer	Golf legend	\$45,000
Oliver North	Iran-Contra stooge	\$35,000
Chuck Yeager	Test pilot	\$35,000
Ken Blanchard	Author: <i>One Minute Manager</i>	\$22,000
George Will	Syndicated columnist	\$18,000
Mike Ditka	Chicago Bears coach	\$15,000
Lee Iacocca	Chrysler Motors honcho	\$15,000
Al Haig	Former Secretary of State	\$15,000
Danny Sullivan	Race car driver	\$15,000
Robert Ballard	Titanic finder	\$12,000

ANOTHER cover story on Imran? Is *Sportsworld* going over board?

The confession is that we wanted to do this one for a long time—even before the series in Pakistan last year. Essentially to analyse Imran's contribution to Pakistan cricket and, why, cricket itself. What eventually transpired was a dilution in attempt—only a 90-minute interview in Sialkot last year. We consigned the transcript to temporary cold storage and sniffed for an opportunity.

Trust Imran to bail us out again. Pakistan lost the Test series in Australia and capsized in the finals of the three-nation limited overs series but Imran? He walked off with the International Cricketer of the Year award within four weeks of being nominated Man of the Series in the Nehru Cup. Amazing twist of a career that was presumably retired at the Gaddafi Stadium on 4 November 1987.

Posterity remembers only what historians tell it. We have always been told that if the Bodyline controversy was resolved within a year, we have the MCC to congratulate that if the 'throwing' problem of the early Sixties was weeded out effectively, the men behind it were Gubby Allen and Don Bradman, that if cricketers today are receiving fatter paychecks than ever before, they ought to at least send Kerry Packer a 'Thank you' card, that if the West Indies emerged as an unbeatable world power from 1976 to 1985, the man responsible was not only Clive Lloyd but also a certain Sir F M M Worrell.

Wonder if the historians of 2010 A D will be able to take as objective a stance when it comes to

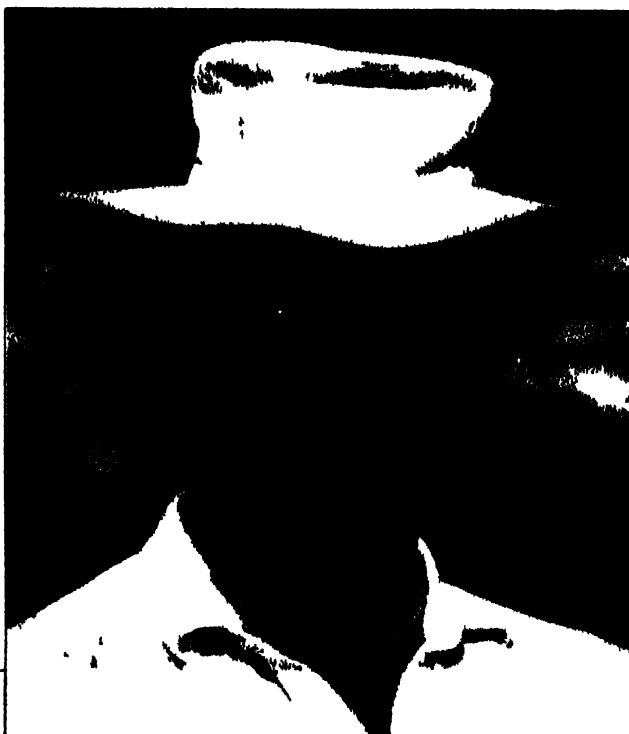
freewheeling

third-country Test umpires. Wonder if they will be able to credit the historic implementation of such umpires to Imran Khan. Will they be able to chronicle that it wasn't an Englishman who dared to break the status-quo but a Pakistani? Or will they while doing a resume of Imran, sum him up as 'Sex symbol All-rounder Captain'?

It was Imran who made the biggest contribution to Pakistan's rise as a world-power—from the win in Sydney, 1976-77, to the winning of the Nehru Cup in 1989. Now in his 38th year he not only is the international captain with the longest tenure among the current lot, but also has a Test series won in England and India to his

credit, the Austral-Asia Cup and the Nehru Cup as well, apart from an honourably drawn series in the Caribbean. But having done so much for Pakistan cricket and its image has also prompted the theory that Imran has added to his stature at the expense of the institution he represents. He is so powerful within Pakistan cricket today that if the team is selected without his approval, he threatens to resign. So in effect, he selects or shuffles, he calls or sends back players midway through a series, he chooses, he drops, he decides, he advises, he negotiates, he presides. Not even Gavaskar at his most powerful could get away with as much. Imran did sorry, does

How will history judge Imran 20 years from now?



The danger with such monopolies start when such monopolies end. Pakistan cricket without Imran is going to be a painful hangover. The team may fragment, its effectiveness may taper and its image may revert to the Dark Ages when their cricket mandarins manipulated results via the puppets Messrs Rana and Hayat. Worse still, people may lose interest in their cricket. We got a preview of what may be in store for them in their late 1987 series against England. Internationally, that series provoked no interest and had it not been for Shakoor Rana's famous conversation with Mike Gatting in the middle of the Faisalabad Test, the series might have been consigned to an anonymous end.

Genuine appreciation is very much a post-humous thing; we are never able to fully evaluate the goodness of things until they are long past. It takes repeated Indian batting failures now for us to appreciate how good Gavaskar was, it has taken an ineffective Kapil Dev of 1990 for us to appraise his wicket-taking ability of 1980.

And so with Imran. Savour him while he is still around. If not the Imran running in to bowl, then the Imran raising his bat to acknowledge yet another 100. Or the Imran standing at mid-on, impassively signalling someone closer, motioning another further and devising some scheme for annihilation. Or the visionary who has the honesty of using third-country umpires when a Rana or a Hayat will make winning so much easier.

So savour him in his last years, maybe months. He will not be around for long.

Mudat Patharya

What did Flo, 1st of the U.S. sent
to the Skipper Man

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the only one who could smile
while moving at
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VIDEOCON

DON'T FOLLOW THE LEADER

ONE DAY CHUCKER CARNIVAL IN NEW ZEALAND

Sportsworld



JAMES 'BUSTER' DOUGLAS

Even sports photograph

MODERN TIMES

*The times, they are a'changing.
An unusual look at curious trends in sport*



Unpack this roll and observe its extraordinary
effect on the people you go trekking with.

They keep offering to carry your rucksack

and while familiarising themselves with its buckles and straps
they'll reach in almost unthinkingly to fish out your roll of
MINT-O.

These pearly white, nothing-centred peppermint rings with the
irresistible flavour

are cool so refreshing. You immediately feel like reaching for
another MINT-O yourself.

Give in to the feeling - you never know when you'll see your
rucksack again.

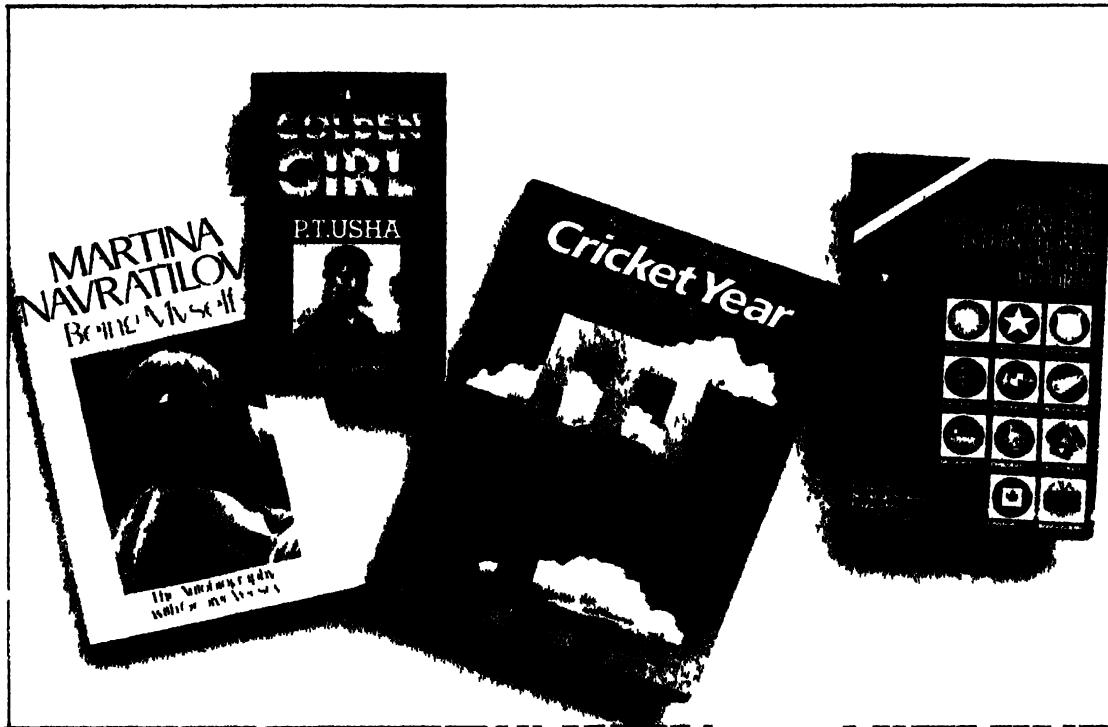


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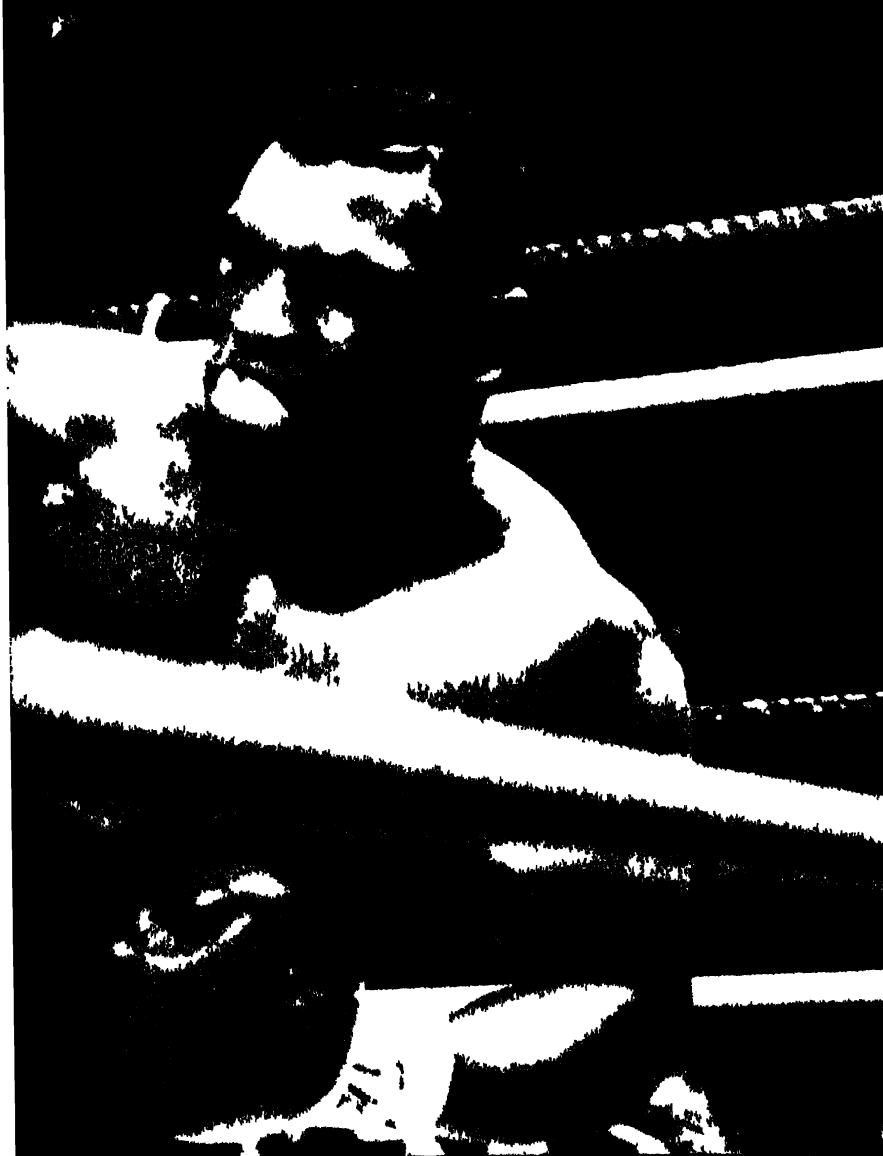
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The world of boxing was hit between the eyes. And they sat up and took notice...of the man who beat Tyson in his own backyard. A tenth round KO heralded in the new champ, James 'Buster' Douglas. See page 8 for story.

35 What you are about to see in these pages is going to blow your mind. The very latest of what sport has to offer—the times, you see, are a'changin'. Our subjects range from the curious, to the peculiar, to the weird, to the abnormal—enough! You better have a look for yourself.

50 Surprise, surprise! India have won the Indian Gandhi hockey tournament. It seems glory for the Indian hockey team comes in fits and starts. However, all said and done, the boys did put up a polished display. Plus hard-hitting interviews with Aslam Sher Khan, Indian hockey's most vociferous campaigner and IHF president R. Prasad



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HOLY MOSES, HE'S BACK!

THOUGH sporting comebacks are as common as the change of seasons, few of them are ever truly successful.

So why should any sane, thinking sports lover hope that Edwin Moses, will hold off the challenge of his young opponents at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics? Mainly because sporting idols are scarcely viewed with any semblance of sanity. It is the sort of sentimental attachment.

In fact ever since the brash 37-year-old U.S. athlete was laid low at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 to settle for a bronze, he had virtually hung up his hurdling boots and was devoting most of

EDWIN MOSES has come out of retirement to train for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics where he will try and win his third gold in the 400m hurdles at the age of 39.

his time to fighting drugs in sports.

But then came the surprise news that Moses was back on the

track training hard for the 1992 Olympics. The hurdler is fine-tuning himself to get in medal shape after a 13-month break during which he chaired the United States Olympic Committee's fight against drugs in sport.

Moses who will be 39 by the time of the 1992 Games, will join another American comeback star, Mark Spitz, who too is training to try and win his record tenth gold medal at a near-grandfatherly age of 42.

Moses says he has started slowly and is finding that the time off is no real hurdle. "A lot of the old nagging injuries that had been bothering me are gone", he says. Moses is following an initially moderate plan "to preserve myself

"I've still got a lot of energy, and I've still got the will to win ... and after my loss at Seoul, I'm obsessed with success"

for getting into the '92 Games. At my age, I'm not going to run (in meets) when I don't want to. I'm

playing a completely different game than the younger guys".

Winner of two gold medals in the 1976 and 1984 Olympic and a bronze in the Seoul Games, Moses is out to defy time and perhaps for the last time prove that he is the greatest hurdling champ ever in the history of athletics—a status he enjoyed before the Seoul Games.

"I'm now once again in great nick", he says. In his 13-year streak before the Seoul Olympics he had lost just seven races and only two since he won the Gold Medal at the 1976 Olympic—once in 1987 to Harald Schmid of West Germany in Berlin and again the same year to American Danny Harris in Madrid when his glasses fogged and he failed to finish the race. But later in Rome he beat both of them flat, breasting the tape ahead of Harris with Schmid coming in third.

"I've still got a lot of energy", says the bespectacled and bearded Moses, "and I've still got the will to win. And after my loss at Seoul I'm obsessed with success".

Age, Moses knows, is not on his side and he is also aware that the opposition from the young pretenders would be formidable. "But", he says, "I'm hungry to show these guys who is the best. I still love the sport so there's no reason to stop. I know I can compete at my best still in Barcelona. I still feel hungry and I can go out and win."

A forlorn Moses, with the wind taken out of him at Seoul had returned sheepishly to America and began crusading against drugs. He became chairman of the US Olympic Committee's substance abuse panel and called for an independent investigator "to look into the drug problem". He said the investigator should be "given the authority to offer limited amnesty to athletes and coaches when necessary to encourage individuals to cooperate with the investigation". The probe in ques-

tion was into the allegations made against prominent US athletes including Florence Griffith-Joyner and Carl Lewis by a US 400 metre runner, Darrel Robinson.

"We are tired of hearing all the accusations that have clouded the sport for a number of years," said Moses. "It is about time we did something". Now, that the US Olympic Committee has endorsed his plan to combat drugs, Moses says he can get in shape to com-

"At Barcelona I will prove that age is not really a factor in competing. I wish I were like a musician or an artiste and could compete all my life. But it's a young man's game.."



pete at a meet by May or June and then start training for the Olympics and "be my old self again. I may be vulnerable but my time hasn't come yet."

At Barcelona, Moses says, "I will prove that age is not really a factor in competing". But on a more frank note he adds, "I wish I were like a musician or an artiste and could compete all my life. But it's a young man's game, a high-performance sport. You may be as young as you feel, but when you're 50-years-old you can't do it any more".

But Edwin Moses hopes to do it in Barcelona by the time he is pushing 40. And as he trains all alone running on sand or grass near his Newport Beach home in California, only one thought flashes through his mind—will he actually be able to do it?

By C. Marcus Rose
Newsman Features



**'TYSON TAMER' , JAMES
IGNORED AND LAUGHED**

HEY,

After his victory he revealed a hint of emotion, tears of remembrance for his mother. But, just as quickly, counterpunched and said, "As you saw, he (Tyson) was flat on his ass."

**'BUSTER' DOUGLAS HAS TRAVELLED A LONG WAY.
AT, AT ONE TIME, PEOPLE NOW SAY...**

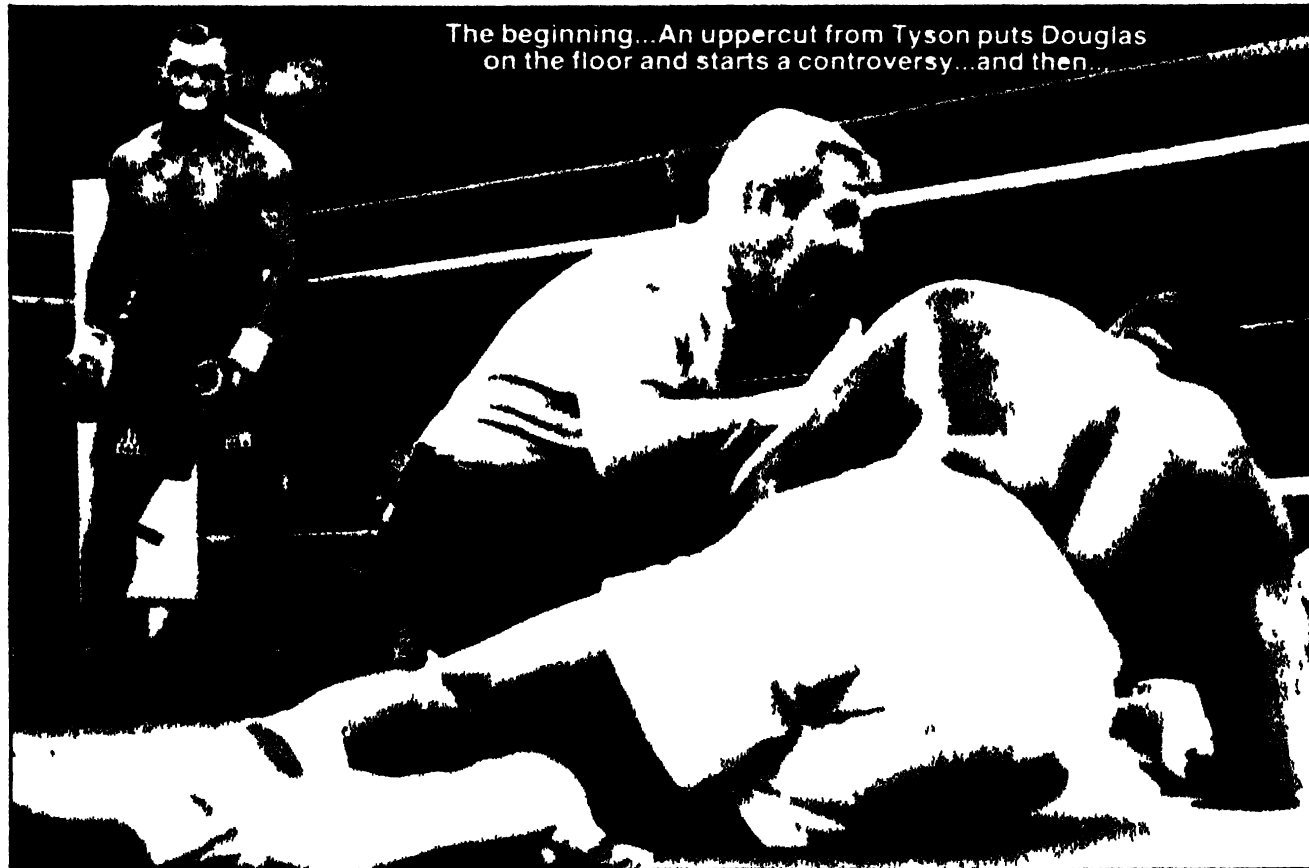
CHAMP!

INSIDE the fight arena, the cameras zero in on two men who make their way towards the ring. Men of various contrasts, not just by stature or character but by the way they treat life or rather, how life treats them. Gradually, they lumber through the crowds slip through the taut ropes, into the ring. The shorter

of the two—no socks, no robes, just a towel, black shorts and black boots—takes the red corner and begins pacing up and down like an impatient assassin. He is the undisputed heavyweight champion in the world. And moreover, with the craftiest promoter in the business. This fighter is truly an assassin—he does not believe in torturing his

opponents or elongating his contests. He is quick, cruel and strong. So much so, that his fights have almost been reduced to no-contests. He, however, has one major problem. Winning has been so easy, such a formality, that he refuses to anticipate a loss. He believes for sure he cannot lose this fight in fact he has already booked his flight home. A flight

The beginning...An uppercut from Tyson puts Douglas on the floor and starts a controversy...and then...



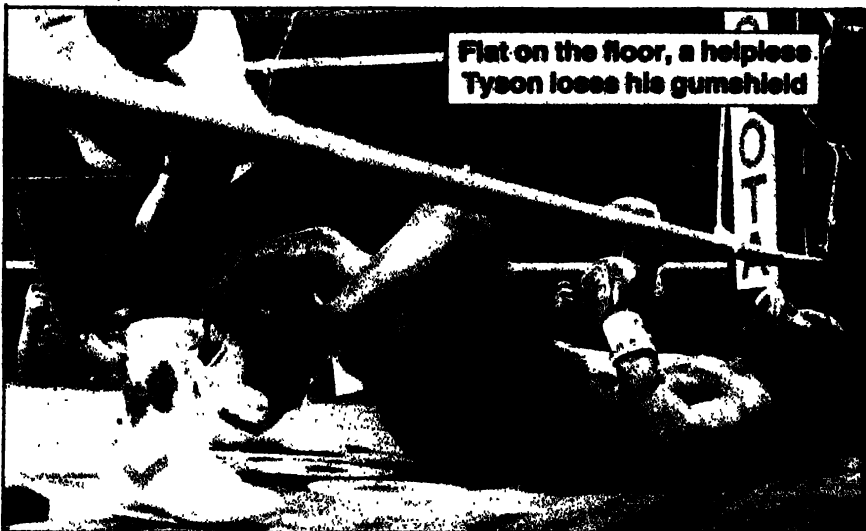


...Tyson got what he usually dishes out. A four-punch combination followed by a left hook from Douglas

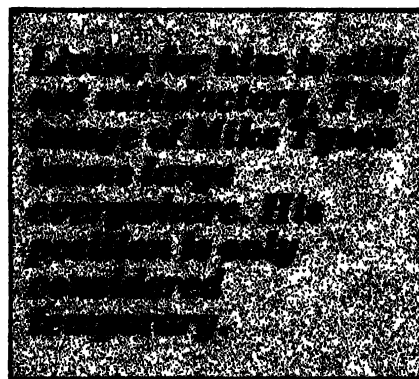
that leaves three hours after his fight. Three hours!

The challenger has to be, and is, different. He walks almost gingerly into the ring as if it were an alien place. He is after all supposed to be the victim—no chance of him surviving, they had said. A minute maybe, give or take a few seconds...clad in a white hood, no one could see that face. If only they can. So many things are going through his mind during that short walk to the ring. His whole life was going in a fast rewind.

He watched his younger brother Artie dying from a gunshot



Flat on the floor, a helpless Tyson loses his gunshield



wound. Seven years ago, while he watched helplessly. Three years ago, his father gave up on him. Last summer, his wife walked out leaving him with only two dogs as a memory. Just when he thought he found God, his mother, the 'centrepiece' of his life, left him too. She died of a stroke. The mother of his 11-year-old son was in and out of hospital, suffering from leukaemia. He had become an alcoholic and drank his way to a DWI (Drunk While Intoxicated) charge last fall. Through all this, there was the terrifying prospect of meeting, and fighting the man who waited for him. He smiled wistfully, life couldn't be better, or

Douglas is the master of all he surveys...and world heavyweight champ!

could it?

The bell rang and they began. The challenger fought like a man possessed, as if desperate to exorcise some demon within him. He was taller, always, and now smarter—his jab hissing through the air like an angry cobra—all the while using the champion's face as a punching bag. Then he was down. But he found an unusual strength to get up and then he found magic—a hard four punch combination rattled the champion and a curving left hook put an end to his reign. The toil, the agony, the heartache did a very quick fast forward. It was all gone, all gone! It all seemed so easy. The joy like a soothing balm covered the mental scars. The worst was over, the best was yet to come. 'It's party time' he shouted to his son Lamar, as they made their way towards each other, towards an emotional embrace. The camera narrowed on them and one almost waited for the credits.

Where's Sylvester Stallone? This sounds like a couple of chapters from yet another *Rocky* sequel. A perfect preface for Stallone to make another couple of million bucks. Except that whatever happened, actually happened. This was no movie. This was real life. The challenger was James 'Buster' Douglas, a man who fought against the proverbial odds to win. And the man he knocked out was 'Iron' Mike Tyson, once the boy champion, now the spoilt bad guy. Boxing had a new hero.

And they used to think Douglas

When he went back to training at the Fitness Trend health club, a fan told him that now he was only a 10-1 underdog to beat Tyson. Said Douglas, "That's up from 100-1."

WHAT THE BIG WIGS SAY

Tyson's shocking defeat at the hands of 'Buster' Douglas has dimmed the chances of other fighters having a go at him. Two aspirants in this race for the heavyweight title are British heavies Gary Mason and Frank Bruno.

The dispute and the eventual rematch will force both fighters to stay in the queue while Tyson seeks revenge. However, Mason has no doubts about accepting the presence of the new champion. "Tyson was beaten fair and square," he said. "It's scandalous that they tried to take his crown away. He fought the fight of his life to get it."

Manager Terry Lawless also went with the referee, "Tyson looked lethargic and got a good whacking," he said. "Douglas was definitely down a long time but we've always lived by the rule that a referee's decision is final."

Jim Watt, a one-time world lightweight champ, said: "There's no doubt that Douglas

is the champ. It's disgraceful and all Douglas has to do is sue for potential loss of earnings as the rightful champion. It was the greatest thing to see Mike Tyson being reduced to a human being with flaws."

Henry Cooper, a survivor from the Ali days said: "The fight is won or lost in the ring and Douglas is the champ as far as I'm concerned."

Secretary John Morris of the British Board of Control says: "Any tinkering with the referee's decision can only damage the credibility of world boxing."

Trainer Angelo Dundee, who guided Ali to three heavyweight crowns said, "The guy (Tyson) got knocked out and the fight was over. You want to make a rematch? Fine, but Douglas is still the champion."

WBC chief Jose Sulaiman finally agreed when he commented: "In my eyes Douglas is the champion. So what now, Mike?"

was a coward! At least his father thought so. Billy 'Dynamite' Douglas, one-time welterweight champ, and father of James Douglas, seemingly disowned his son when 'Buster' walked away in the tenth round of his fight with Tony Tucker. A fight, he appeared to be winning.

But before the Tyson fight they exchanged a few words that mattered. He did exactly what we talked about, said his father. "I just wanted him to be aggressive and beat Tyson to the punch. I was confident that if he hit him, Tyson would clock out." The old man was right.

Douglas Jr is not the archetypal heavyweight boxer—he's actually a 'natural nice guy'. This was evident in Tokyo before the fight when he impressed the impressive Japanese with his politeness and

devout behaviour. A stark contrast to Tyson's surliness. He's going to beat Tyson? No way, he's too nice. Boxing pundits of course, had ribbed Douglas, not giving him, even a ghost of a chance. Except Tim May that is, the boxing writer from the *Columbus Dispatch*, Douglas' hometown paper. May in his observation, predicted victory for Douglas, because, (1) Douglas loved his mother and (2) he hated Tyson and his bullying tactics. "Who knows where these combined emotions will take Tyson," he observed. "To the boxing upset of all time, a win over undisputed heavyweight champ, Mike Tyson?"

Douglas owes May one and when he broke down in the post-fight interview while talking about his mother to HBO's Larry

WHAT DON KING HAD TO SAY —FINALLY



“BUSTER Douglas is the champ,” admitted Don King. “I never asked anybody to change the decision. It was all part of the hype to get a rematch.” The governing bodies who treated Douglas so shabbily will, however, insist that his first title defence be against Tyson.

The return match is now scheduled to be held at Donald Trump's new showplace—the Taj Mahal—in Atlantic City on June 18. Billed as the Fight of the Century, it will easily replace the previously planned multi-million pound showdown between Tyson and No. 1 challenger Evander Holyfield. As for Holyfield, he's reportedly going to get \$8 million just to sit it out! All this *tamasha* inspite of trying to deny Douglas his crown?

Merchant, he revealed a hint of emotion, tears of remembrance. But just as quickly like a true champ he counterpunched and said, “As you saw, he (Tyson) was flat on his ass ”

Six years ago, in 1984, Douglas

stood at the corner of a street in hometown Columbus, Ohio watching the homecoming of light welterweight Jerry Page who won an Olympic gold medal. Columbus had organised a parade in Page's honour, while Douglas was issuing tickets to promote his own fight against Dave Jaco. Ringside tickets going for \$10. The fight never even came off, it was cancelled. Douglas went on to fight again, but his career record (29 wins—4 losses-1 knockout) was just decent And then came pay day

For Douglas, his own homecoming was simple, just like the people in Columbus. A parade was organised and in a few seconds 25,000 people had lined the streets showering him with pink carnations. The champ had a black jacket on and on his cap was written, “Only my best, James Douglas,” Words which in a way summed up the fight

With fame comes a few obligations towards the public, his fans. He is also getting hip, you see he has his own private phone number into which he can put taped messages

The town of Columbus which had almost always neglected him, received him in the best way they could—he belonged! He is the champ now, but there is no change in his behaviour. He does not gloat over what he has done or maybe it is because he does not realise what he has done. Even though he faces the possibility of immense financial gains he has few plans for extravagance. A boat, perhaps a suit and maybe a Mercedes Benz?

But with fame there are always a few obligations towards the public, his fans. He is also getting hip—he has his own private phone number into which he can now

put taped messages. The world of boxing is stunned by his innocence and naivete. Douglas himself is stunned by the enormous to sudden changes in his life. Nothing is, nor will be, the same again.

However, inspite of all the new additions to his life, nothing is easy, for the image of Mike Tyson looms large everywhere. The position Douglas holds, that of heavyweight champion of the world, is considered only temporary. People predict a victory for Tyson in their

WHAT MIKE TYSON HAD TO SAY



A black-eyed and tho roughly chastened Mike Tyson flew into America to face another pounding, this time from his fans.

The fans reportedly are enraged at the fact that Tyson actually pulled strings to try and retain his title. The former champ, however, insisted he thought that Douglas was out when he ‘tagged him’. “I’ve got to fight him again as soon as I can and beat him real bad,” he said. Douglas retorted: “If they insist on a rematch, I’ll destroy him.”

Even though he faces images of immense financial prospects he has few plans for extravagance. A boat, perhaps a suit and maybe a Mercedes Benz?

rematch, and also a return of boxing to its previous non-competitive status

Douglas, now 29, intends to put in two more fights into his boxing diary before calling it a day. Two more fights: one against Evander Holyfield and the other against Tyson. Still, experts feel that he may not be able to achieve this aim. Not even his fans: when he went back to training at the Fitness Trend health club, a fan told him that he was a 10-1 underdog to beat Tyson. Said Douglas: "That's up from 100-1." Douglas was booked at 42-1 before the fight.

The affection for him is still very evident though. Sometimes it is worth stopping and looking at. At New York's La Guardia airport when he was surrounded by businessmen who took out pads in order to get his autograph, a woman pushed her way through the crowd just to touch him. People are analysing this affection as a sort of backlash for the Tyson Circus. As far as his personal plans are concerned, a biography is in the offing; he has already done two network morning shows and a number of radio shows. *The Cosby Show* has sent feelers of interest and Diet Coke want him for their new ad campaign.

But though Douglas wants to spend most of his time with son Lamar, his fixation for a Tyson rematch is intense. He was once discovered during a party in his house, alone in the basement,



Mike Tyson hides from reality behind his dark glasses. He is no more heavyweight champion

Though he feels his son is growing beyond his reach, he adds with fatherly pride and mock anger, "I looked at his school journal once and it was only girls, girls, girls..."

staring at a picture of Tyson. He now feels that Lamar is growing beyond his reach, but immediately with a mixture of fatherly pride and mock anger narrated, "I looked at his school journal once and it was only girls, girls, girls."

As the camera pulled back and as he walked out of the ring with his arms around his son and the belt firmly strapped around his waist, Douglas' training song must have done a re-run in his mind. "You're on the road to glory/You've found the street of dreams all your pain and sacrifice/Is worth it now, it seems. The images grew smaller as they walked away it was only the beginning."

Robin Chatterjee

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"THERE it goes!" I cried out switching off the television set. "What a shoddy display! Is this what one gets for getting up at 8.30 am?"

The second one-day international between India and Australia had just ended resulting in yet another defeat for India. "What a miserable display," I exclaimed. "It's high time we stopped playing cricket. And if this is the team of the 1990's, a big 'boo' to that prince of clowns, Raj Singh Dungarpur."

I had been watching the direct telecast with a friend of mine, a wellknown producer of Hindi films. He appeared lost in thought. And then rubbing his chin, he said reflectively, "Who knows? There could be a silver lining amidst this darkness."

"Look, I know more about cricket than you," I snapped. "If there had been a silver lining, I would have spotted it."

"You are mistaken," he went on. "You see, I have been watching these telecasts carefully and I feel that something could be made out of him."

"Who?" I wanted to know.

"Manoj Prabhakar," replied my friend. "With some training and a bit of luck, he could go far. At least, that is the impression I got from the telecasts, particularly the action replays."

"What can one do with Prabhakar?" I asked. "At last, he is well settled in the side. He would be grateful for that, considering the treatment he had received from the selectors in the past."

"You talk of nothing but cricket," said my film-producer friend. "I can think of a different future for Manoj. He could be our next Angry Young Man."

"What is that?" I asked.

"A natural successor to Amitabh Bachchan," said the friend with a distant look in his eyes. "We want someone young, fresh, and looking really angry. Prabhakar fits the bill."

"Oh, rot," I said. "That's your imagination running riot. This bloke is a cricketer. Not a *dishum, dishum* hero."

"But we can make him into one," said the producer "Amitabh, as you saw in 'Toofan', 'Main

The New Angry Young Man



Asad Hoor' and even 'Agnaspath' has gone stale, flabby and has lost his fire. But this fellow Prabhakar reminded of the once-great Bachchan of the 'Zanjeer' days."

"Is that so?" I asked.

"That's news to me."

"Particularly when he appeals for lbw or caught behind after every ball," explained the film producer friend. "Did you notice the intensity of the appeals, the energetic jump, turnabout, the glare... these have the entire gamut of emotions."

"Now that you mention it, I see your point," I said.

"We are trained to look for these," said the producer friend. "I was really taken aback by the looks Manoj gives the umpires whenever they turn down his appeals. Gives me the goosepimples. Same kind of looks Amitabh used to give Ranjeet,

Jeewan and other villains in his earlier films."

"Gosh, how Manoj seethes with rage," exclaimed my friend. "And the dialogue! The invectives he mutters, I mean, the four, five, six and seven letter words. They are more colourful than any dialogue written by Kader Khan. Hotter than the normal, *Kutte, Kameene* variety."

I nodded. "That's essential for the Angry Young Man image," I said.

"Did you see how Manoj hurled the beamer at Martin Crowe," asked the producer friend. "In exactly the manner as Amitabh hurled the spear at Amrish Puri in 'Toofan ka jadugiri'. The ferocious expression on Manoj's face could send a chill through the spines of millions of viewers."

"That's right," I said. "My only fear is that Prabhakar is a bit too short to handle the Angry Young Man role, particularly after the tall Amitabh."

"You are mistaken there," said the producer. "Contrasts always work well in films. You have a tall A. Y. M., and then you can have a shorter version to succeed him. Such a gimmick always works."

"What do you propose to do now?" I asked him.

"Sign him up of course," said the producer. "At least, we have an Angry Young Man of the 1990's in Manoj Prabhakar."

ROTHMAN'S ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL TRIANGULAR SERIES

Jones the magician
conjured up
Australia's winning trick



A

USTRALIAN cricket has a resident magician, and they call him Dean Jones. In the first fortnight of March, the Australian cricket team marched

triumphantly through the Rothmans series of one-day Internationals involving India and New Zealand too and Jones began casting his spell. Against New Zealand he smashed a vicious 107. Against India, he was the second best Australian with 32 in a team total of 187 (He was rested for the second match against India). When Australia played New Zealand a second time in the league, he was caught and bowled by Richard Hadlee for 59. And in the final, he was not out on 102. He was dominating, arrogant, aggressive.

There was a rumour though that Jones would be worried by

Magic Jones Conjures Up Aussie Victory

From Ashok Kamath, New Zealand

the Hadlee phenomenon. When they last met in the Trans Tasman Test series in Australia in late 1987, Jones was evicted by Hadlee for scores of 2, 0 and 4 in the first innings each time. Jones, like many talented Aussies, can be very brash and Hadlee had a special reason to go after him. Jones had, after all, once claimed that he had Hadlee's measure.

So, on landing in New Zealand for the Rothmans Series that preceded the one Test match tour, Jones was predictably provoked by Kiwi press men about what he thought about being Hadlee's bunny. The cocky Australian agreed that Hadlee had dismissed him a few times but added disdainfully that so had his own sister on their back lawn.

Although Hadlee did in fact get Jones twice in their last three one-day International meetings, he did not in their last. And that was when it mattered most, because New Zealand were playing Australia in the final of the three-national Rothmans

Cup in Auckland on March 11.

BISHAN SINGH BEDI thinks Allan Border's Australians are the best cricketing side at the moment. Allan Border himself begs to differ. This, despite his team having won the World Cup in the Indian subcontinent in 1987, and, much more recently, the triangular Benson and Hedges championship at home and the Rothmans series (again, three-way) in New Zealand. It was thunder Down Under but Border believes his team has first to comprehensively beat Vivian Richards' West Indies before laying claim to being the very best in the world.

Border and his merry band of highly motivated, finely tuned professionals were emphatically the very best of the three teams that contested the Rothmans Series in New Zealand. India, ex-World Cup champions and an outfit that is fashioned to last through the 1990s (at least according to one Shri Raj Singh Dungarpur), fell by the wayside very early. New Zealand, who

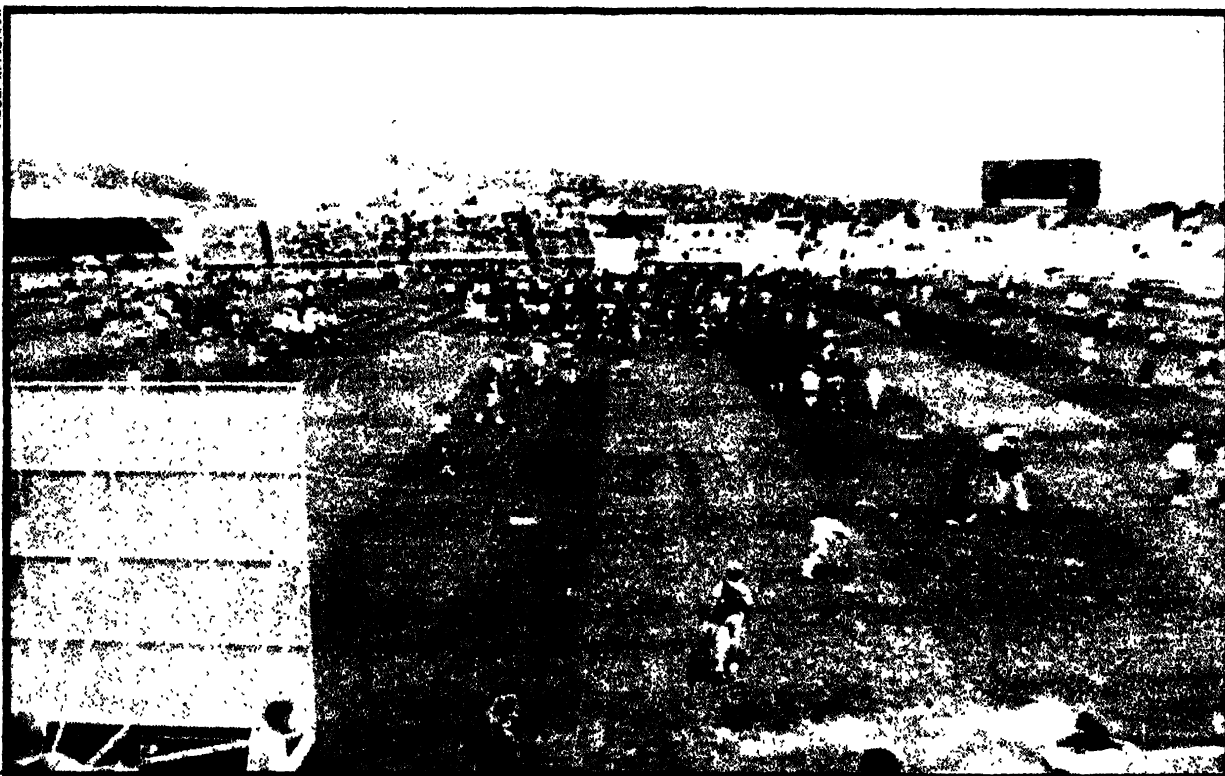
challenged Australia in the final, were only marginally better than India.

The quirks of the draw meant that New Zealand and Australia met on two successive days, first for the last preliminary match and then for the final. On the first of those occasions Australia won with a dash of good luck. On the second of those occasions Australia won with a dash of pure class.

It took three matches for the Indians to grasp the very basic tenet that in one-day cricket you have to first try and bat out your quota of overs before you can give yourself a chance of beating the opposition. In Carisbrook (Dunedin) against New Zealand and in Lancaster Park (Christchurch) against Australia, Mohammed Azharuddin and his men were in a tearing hurry and required to be reminded they were not firefighters on the beat.

Yet, midway through the triangular series the Indians had pulled themselves together with a

PRADIP MANDHAN





one-run, penultimate ball victory over New Zealand at Wellington, in the process throwing open the contest which till then had threatened to become a two-horse race between Australia and New Zealand.

At both Carisbrook and Lancaster Park it was the batting that failed India. The bowlers had done reasonably well in the first match though this was not necessarily reflected in the target that the New Zealanders eventually set India (247 to get a 5 25 runs per over). Yet, India lost by 108 runs and the margin of defeat speaks for itself.

With the generosity one usually associates with winning captains, John Wright said it was one of those days when everything his team did just turned out to be right and everything that the opposition did turned out to be wrong. It was a rather simplistic way of looking at things because the Indian batsmen were intent on self-destruction. Not one of the frontliners showed the will to stay at the wicket. Agreed, there were a couple of out of this world catches: one, which Wright himself latched on to on his unnatural right side to send back Woorkeri Raman (top-scorer with

Prabhakar's efforts weren't enough to spark the Indian challenge Did Hadlee play his final one-day game ever?

30) and the other which Mark Greatbatch took to evict Azharuddin. But the way the Indians approached their target indicated they intended to get there in 15 overs rather than in the 47 overs they had.

In sharp contrast, the New Zealanders paced themselves marvellously in their first game. Martin Crowe was superlative en route to his second century in one-day Internationals. He fulfilled a recently-acquired desire to open the batting and succeeded in his first try. New Zealand had lost Wright, Andrew Jones and Mark Greatbatch relatively early and Crowe and Ken Rutherford displayed that there is a lot more to batting in limited-overs cricket than slam-bang. The duo worked the ball away for sharp singles and two's and chose the really poor ball to punish. By the 30th over the duo could slip into overdrive because there were no further breaches. Crowe had taken 13 overs to get to double figures, yet, tellingly, was 104 (with six fours and a six) before he

was out. Rutherford touched his first 50 runs after 63 balls but then cut loose brilliantly. With ten scoring strokes off 12 balls he jumped to 78 where he remained unconquered when the innings had to be terminated.

The Indian bowling in the first match, which was efficient but little else till the half way mark, wilted conspicuously in the slog overs. And so did the fielding.

Said Bishan Bedi, the Indian team's cricket manager, after the Dunedin debacle. "Our fielding was bloody untidy. And, yes, we did not bowl too well in the last few overs. As for our batting, some of us have to ask ourselves whether we are really international class batsmen. You cannot reach 150 runs by hitting the cover of the ball in the first 15 overs, can you? We have to put our heads together tonight and bang a few of them together, if need be."

Exactly 48 hours later Bedi was tearing his hair apart watching his team destroy itself without much provocation from the Australian medium pace of Terry Alderman and his colleagues. There are few performances by an Indian batting line-up to match that day at Lancaster Park against the Australians. ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. This great cricketer died after a fall from a cliff at the end of his garden in Sydney. Who was he?

2. From 1973 to 1979 Chris Evert won 125 successive matches on Clay. Who ended this run and where?

3. A tennis player's free training was withdrawn when he was 13 by his country. Who was he?

4. Name the first wicket-keeper to score 4000 Test runs.

5. John McEnroe has only one mixed doubles title in Grand Slam events. Who was his partner?

6. What is unique about Maureen Connolly's 'Grand Slam', which she won in 1953?

7. In 1975-76 at Perth, Jeff Thomson's delivery was timed at 160 km. per hour. How much time would the batsman have to decide on his stroke?

8. Who is the only wicket-keeper to have scored a 100 on debut?

9. "If he is as quick as Lillee, then Lillee must have been bowling at half pace" — was Sir Garfield Sobers' comment on a bowler in 1977. Who was he talking about?



THIS WEEK'S QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED

BY
**R. Varadarajan,
28, Third Street,
Muthuswamy
Colony,
Coimbatore-641026**

10. Name the bowler who holds the record for his country of being the highest aggregate wicket taker against all opponent countries.

11. Only two bowlers in the '300 wicket club' have a strike rate of less than 50 balls per wicket. Name them.

12. Desmond Haynes holds the record for the most number of centuries in one-day internationals. What is the other record he holds?

13. How were the tennis courts shaped in the olden

days?

14. What is the record for the maximum Test runs scored by one individual against a particular country?

15. In last year's Benson and Hedges one-day series in Australia, two fielders collided and one of them recovered and still completed what has been called "The catch of the century". Name the persons involved.

16. Which bowler was nicknamed 'England's Umbrella'?

17. "Poetry in motion till the ball gets you." — M.J. Procter. "Given a choice, I would rather sit at home and watch him run in and bowl, run in and bowl, run in and bowl..." — D.K. Lillee. Who are they talking about?

18. Whom does Don Bradman rate as the greatest of left handed stylists?

ANSWERS

1. Stan McCabe
2. Tracy Austin — Italian Open in Rome
3. Boris Becker
4. A.P.J. Kriek
5. Mary Carillo — French Open 1977
6. She did not lose a set in the four finals.
7. 0.426 seconds (less if the ball deviated)
8. Brendon Kuruppu (201 not out Vs. New Zealand at Colombo, 1987)
9. Imran Khan (After he took 12 wickets at Sydney in 1977 to lead Pakistan to victory)
10. R.J. Hadlee
11. M.D. Marshall (West-Indies) and F.J. Trueman (England)
12. Carrying the bat through the most number of times (in one day's)
13. In the shape of a hour-glass
14. D.G. Bradman's 5028 (27 Tests) Vs. England
15. Viv. Richards caught by Steve Waugh — Waugh collided with Merv Hughes
16. D.L. Underwood — for his ability to run through the opposition on wet wickets.
17. M.A. Holding
18. Graeme Pollock.

RATING TEST!

Above 15 : Wish you were part of our quiz team !
Between 12 and 15 : You are not too bad.
Between 8 and 11 : There is room for improvement.
Below 8 : Sportsworld reading recommended.

THE NUMBERS

NEW ZEALAND BATTING

	M	In	No	Runs	Avg	HS	C	F	Ct
Wright	3	4	1	375	125.00	185	2	1	1
Jones	3	4	2	245	122.50	170*	1	1	3
Smith	3	2	—	182	91.00	173	1	—	11
Thomson	1	2	1	85	85.00	43*	—	—	1
Hadlee	3	2	—	115	57.50	87	—	1	—
Crowe	3	3	—	161	53.66	113	1	—	1
Rutherford	3	3	—	97	32.33	69	—	1	1
Greatbatch	3	3	—	93	31.00	48	—	—	—
Franklin	3	4	—	78	19.00	50	—	1	2
Snedden	3	3	1	26	13.00	22	—	—	1
Morrison	3	3	3	2	Inf	1*	—	—	—
Bracewell	2	1	—	0	0.00	0	—	—	1
Extras	—	—	—	76	—	—	—	—	—
	34	8		1513	58.19	185	5	5	22

Centuries (8) : 185 and 113* by Wright (in Christchurch and Napier), 173 by Smith, 170* by Jones and 113 by Crowe (in Auckland)

Hundred

partnerships (7) : 1st wkt — 149 — Wright and Franklin (in Napier); 2nd wkt — 105 (in Christchurch) and 148 (in Auckland) both between Wright and Jones; 4th wkt — 125 — Wright and Greatbatch (in Christchurch) and 189 — Jones and Crowe (in Auckland); 8th wkt — 103 — Hadlee and Smith (in Auckland); 9th wkt — Smith and Snedden (in Auckland).



◆ Danny Morrison was the chief wrecker of the Indian batting line-up in the first Test



NEW ZEALAND — BOWLING

	Balls	Mins	Runs	Wkts	Avg	Best
Hadlee	635	24	319	12	26.58	4-69
Morrison	660	14	449	16	28.06	5-75
Snedden	701	24	319	6	53.16	2-20
Bracewell	270	5	109	2	54.50	2-45
Thomson	165	4	122	2	61.00	2-62
Jones	54	1	28	0	—	—
Rutherford	102	0	59	0	—	—
Greatbatch	6	1	0	0	—	—
Extras			44			
	2593	73	1449	38	38.13	5-75

ERS GAME



INDIA — BATTING

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avg	HS	C	F	Cl
Azharuddin	3	4	—	303	75.75	192	1	—	—
Prabhakar	3	5	1	235	58.75	96	—	2	2
Sidhu	1	1	—	51	51.00	51	—	1	—
Ramen	3	5	1	176	44.00	96	—	2	—
Mora	3	4	—	135	33.75	73	—	2	6
Tendulkar	3	4	—	117	29.25	88	—	1	1
Raja	2	3	1	55	27.50	31	—	—	1
Wasoon	3	4	1	79	26.33	53	—	1	1
Vengarkar	2	2	—	47	23.50	47	—	—	—
Gurs. Singh	1	1	—	18	18.00	18	—	—	2
Manjrekar	3	4	—	67	16.75	42	—	—	—
Kapil Dev	3	4	—	55	13.75	25	—	—	1
Hirweni	3	4	3	2	2.00	1*	—	—	1
Extras	—	—	—	109	—	—	—	—	—
	45	7		1449	38.13	192	1	9	14

Century (1) : 192 Azharuddin (in Auckland)

Hundred

partnerships (3) : 1st wkt — Ramen and Prabhakar (in Auckland) 4th wkt — Vengarkar and Azharuddin (in Auckland) 7th wkt — Tendulkar and Mora (in Napier)

Skipper Azharuddin was the lone crusader on behalf of the Indians.

There was no stopping John Wright throughout the series. The Kiwi captain's hunt for runs clinched the issue for New Zealand

INDIA — BOWLING

	Balls	Mdes	Runs	Wkts	Avg	Best
Raja	276	16	113	3	37.66	3-66
Wasoon	490	11	331	7	47.28	4-108
Hirweni	660	28	309	6	51.50	3-143
Kapil	617	18	305	5	61.00	3-69
Prabhakar	715	20	382	5	76.40	3-123
Ramen	114	10	23	0	—	—
Extras			50			
	2872	103	1513	26	58.19	4-108



"Mr. Prasad resigned from the chairmanship of Indian Airlines when the Airbus crashed at Bangalore and broke the hearts of 90 families. Why didn't he resign owning moral responsibility for the heartbreak of 800 million Indians ..."

Aslam Sher Khan does not mince words on matters. An irresistible penchant for airing his views with uninhibited, full-throated clarity is one of his almost unmistakable hallmarks. His hockey was the other. And his experiences in life has been such that somehow these two traits of his personality were destined to combine and make him a most controversial figure. Aslam Sher Khan is genuine livewire fireworks.

When he played hockey, he domineered. His country ruled the world. Aslam Sher Khan enjoyed his hockey, savoured his country's triumphs and dreamed to spend his life in the warmth of those treasured memories.

But then as the slide began, India's grip on world supremacy started to loosen. Aslam Sher Khan painfully and helplessly watched how the nation's hockey godfathers nonchalantly presided over the liquidation of a glorious

'Alienating the minorities killed hockey....'

Aslam Sher Khan_____

heritage.

A bitter man Aslam Sher Khan could not swallow the gall that welled up in him as the injustice, the corruption, the malevolence of the hockey authorities continued to hurt. Aslam Sher Khan wrote his autobiography 'To Hell With Hockey'. All hell broke loose, thereafter.

And now that India has once again touched the rock bottom, and even the last bit of hope for its rejuvenation is shattered, Aslam Sher Khan reacts with his characteristic forthrightness, laying bare, in an exclusive interview with Suprakash Ghoshal, several hitherto unknown factors that contributed to hockey's steady downfall.

You've seen the glorious times of Indian hockey. Now you are seeing a different picture altogether. How do you think it all happened? How does the contrast affect you?

Indian hockey is paying for the accumulated sins of its 'guardian angels'. That is how I look at the present discomfiture of this once great hockey nation. Today, when people try to dissect the reasons for India's continuing failure, try to blame one another—the coach blames players, the players blame the coaches, the IHF—I feel sad at the meaninglessness of the entire affair. The reasons for the downfall of Indian hockey is much more deep rooted than the strategic knowledge of our coaches, the ability of our players,

the astro turf and so on...

But these certainly have been the most important factors bringing about the downfall of the game, don't you agree?

Only to a certain extent. The real reasons behind the decline, which actually started in the seventies, are to be found elsewhere. The downfall of Indian hockey started ever since they began alienating the minorities of the country, who represented the very core of Hindustan's hockey might. This has been done deliberately, calculatingly for a long period of time. They thought they would get away with it, but we knew it would bear its bitter fruit some day or other. Now it is doing just that.

But what do you mean by the minorities? Why don't you look upon the Indian hockey players as Indians?

Well, technically they were Indians. But the minorities in this country have always retained a kind of identity which has to be taken into account to understand hockey in this country. Why do you think the minorities took to the game so passionately? Because belonging to a minority community has



***'The
downfall
of Indian
hockey
started
ever since
they began
alienating
the
minorities'***

always given them a kind of complex which in turn has generated a fierce fighting spirit, which no one else could muster in our times. It's a kind of inbred urge to surface above the overwhelming presence of the majority people. This found an excellent outlet in the game of hockey. That's why hockey was so largely dominated by the muslims and later on the Sikhs. Somehow, it just so happened that they chose hockey for the fulfilment of their pent up feelings. Luckily, it did India a lot of good, making her invincible in the world. But Hindustan did not pay them back, but rather denied them their due, and initiated a process of slow elimination which bred a sense of despondency among the muslims.

Does that mean the muslims who provided such a rich source of talent drifted away from the mainstream of the game, and the fountainhead of talent dried down slowly. Exactly. I know personally, how it happened, to a large extent by virtue of belonging to this community. I have seen and experienced the agony that has gradually gripped the minority communities, the more they realised that the authorities were out to eliminate them in a calculated manner. I've seen how despondency has slowly and agonisingly gripped the muslims and strangled their enthusiasm for the game. Therein began the talent famine that is now

'Belonging to a minority community has always given them a kind of complex which in turn generated a fierce fighting spirit....'

having its presence felt.

So, in your opinion it is mainly a talent crisis which has brought the game to this sorry pass?

I would be more specific. A deliberately created talent famine has been the undoing of Indian hockey. And this process reached its peak during the reign of Aswini Kumar. Indian hockey committed suicide by alienating its minorities.

But so far you've been talking mainly about the muslims; what about the Sikhs?

That happened much later. On the political and social fronts, the ill-effects of the discrimination has now exploded in the form of terrorism. But in hockey, the bitterness spread silently, sealing off yet another goldmine of hockey talent in the country.

And this suicidal policy was pursued in other areas of the game too, not merely in alienating the minorities from the mainstream of the game.

Would you explain that?

In Hindusthan, defeat always creates a sense of self-condemnation (Hum haar jatey to apne uppar samman kho bhethtey hain, aur soch mein par jaata hoon ki hum jo bhi karey o galat hai) Here if we lose, we immediately lose our self esteem and start thinking that whatever we do is wrong. So, when India had the first jolt of defeat the immediate reaction among our IHF experts was to condemn the Indian style of hockey. This was the beginning of the demoralising of Indian hockey.

But then the same experience befell Pakistan too. How come they still manage to survive and in fact are still doing well?

It's a wrong impression that Pakistan condemned their style of hockey when the European onslaught hit them. Pakistan never really made a departure from their original style of play; retaining confidence in themselves they altered and adjusted it to the new requirements. But Indians are still clamouring that our original style of hockey should have long been discarded. It's nonsense. And you know why there is this difference in the attitudes of India and Pakistan. The reason is in Pakistan the authorities always owned up to their failure, which is one of the best things that happened to them. In contrast, the Indian authorities, the IHF, never held themselves responsible for the failure. They always found someone to blame, sometimes the players, sometimes the astro truf and sometimes our style of play. Only the IHF is apparently sacrosanct. They can never make any mistake. That's why Indian players are so badly condemned after defeat, while in Pakistan failure immediately sets off a process of soul searching among the bosses.

So, you don't think our failure to adjust to the swiftly changing game was to blame for the decline?

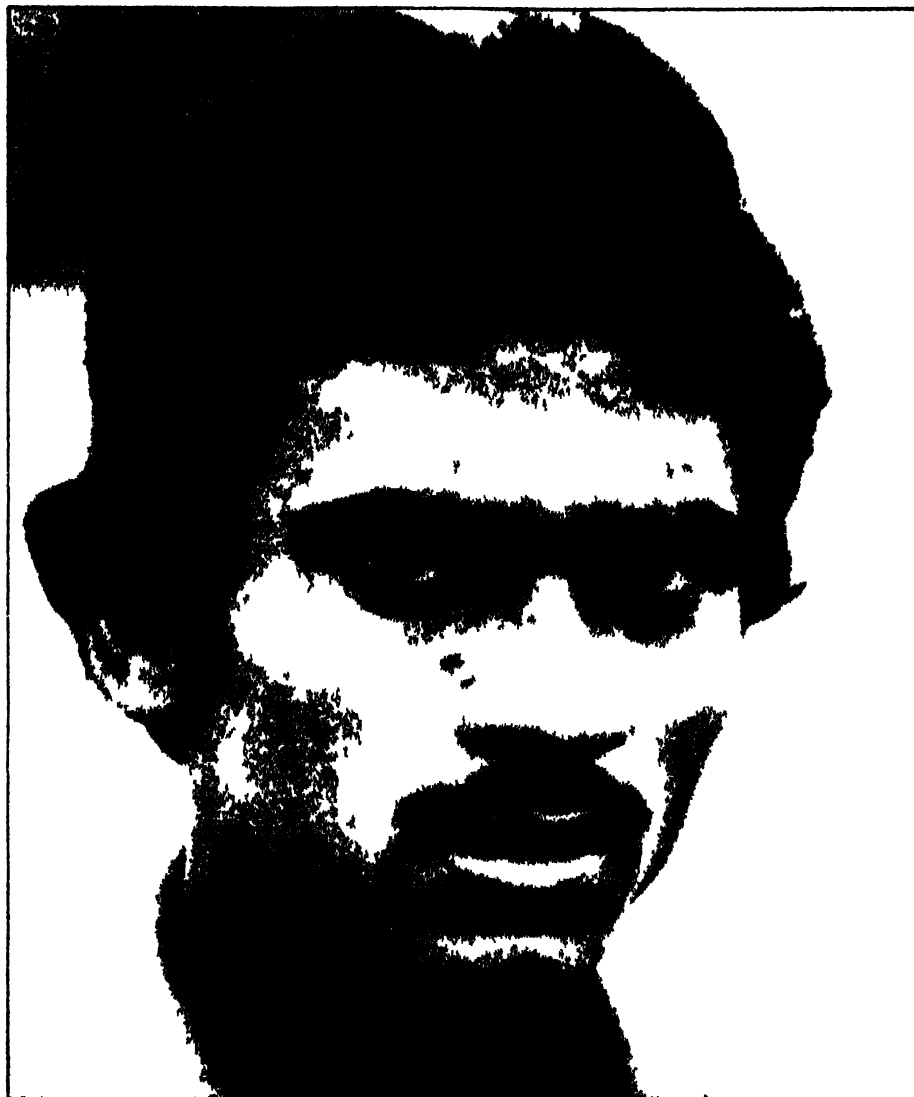
No, you cannot blame that aspect totally; you can say that the style has to be permuted and altered here and there. A nation cannot change its style just like that. It depends a lot on its physiological and psychological make-up. You cannot just switch off one style and switch on another. When you advise someone to do that you're actually bypassing the real issues. And now that the IHF is condemning Indian coaches and talking about bringing in foreign coaches, it's once again bypassing the real problems, and distracting the public's attention from its own failure. Mr. Prasad resigned from the chairmanship of Indian Airlines when the Airbus crash at Bangalore broke the hearts of 90 families. But he did not own up to the moral responsibility when the Lahore debacle broke the hearts of 800 million Indians? Does not this prove that these people have got some vested interest?

But you said there has been a talent famine in this country. Now, if that is true then that's very unfortunate. The IHF cannot possibly create talented hockey players.

No, they can't but it is their policies which have hindered mass participation in hockey, because of the gradual alienation and disillusionment of those communities who could give their lives for hockey. That's why the talent crisis. And also look at the way they have wasted talent, brilliant rare talent. For example?

One glaring example is Mohammed Shahid. If there had been two Shahids in the team I could have got India a few international tournaments. But look at the way they treated him. Why should a genius like Shahid have to say that

'Give me two Shahids and I will win tournaments for India. And think of the way they treated Shahid' (in picture)



he will not play for his own country again. That shows the hurt, that shows how deeply they have felt the humiliation. So you don't think the lack of tactical knowledge among our coaches is the main reason for the debacles?

Well, before getting into that we must ask: suppose coach Ganesh had the tactical knowledge, our boys be able to execute that knowledge? Are they the best hockey boys in the country?

And the second important thing is that the IHF should have known from before how much knowledge Ganesh has about the tactics of modern hockey. One would not make you the boss of his company without knowing your capabilities. So how come the IHF suddenly woke up to the incompetence of Ganesh? They should have known this from before, and the fact that they did not know this shows their incompetence and justifies one's demands for their immediate resignation. If one does not own up his responsibilities, one never changes. ●

'If our coaches hadn't

In an exclusive interview with Suprakash Ghoshal, the Indian Hockey Federation chief, R. Prasad, analyses the reasons for India's recent hockey debacle

SPORTSWORLD: Indian hockey has touched rock-bottom, perhaps the morale of the country has never been so low as it is now. As the chief of the Hockey Federation, how do you react to this crumbling chaos. Aren't you feeling guilty?

R PRASAD If you remember, in the World Cup at London, India was 12th. The debacle sent shockwaves throughout the country, everyone started screaming and crying that the doomsday for Indian hockey has arrived. Yet, afterwards we fought our way back to some sort of respectability. And now once again people are screaming and abusing that Indian hockey has been done for. So, these are parallel situations and hence the subsequent developments may be similar. We came back a long way since the London disaster and from Lahore too we can return. There is no reason to be so emotionally upset about the whole affair. Do you mean we are overreacting to the situation; the fact that India has been relegated so low down in the world rankings. There is nothing to fall back on as a source of consolation, neither is there any room for optimism for the future? Can you blame anyone for being despondent?

Oh yes, certainly, I can blame people for being despondent. Even though I agree with you that there is no achievement in the recent

past to fall back on as a source of consolation, and we don't have any reason to be optimistic about the future either, yet I must say that we are overreacting to the debacle almost to the point of irrationality.

Why do you think the nation is reacting so strongly? After all, we should have learnt to live with failure in almost every field of sport?

Well, as far as hockey is concerned we still nurture a false sense of pride, self-importance and nostalgia. We still believe that we should always be at the top, right at the top just because once we were at the top. That certainly is not an attitude which has anything to do with reality. Hockey is a changed game today. With the rise of the Europeans, hockey has become an absolutely competitive game where India is just one of the contenders or rather participants with equal chances of winning or losing as the others.

Given the present situation, do you think India still enjoy equal chances of winning or losing as the others? Don't you think India has long been relegated to the status of permanent underdogs?

Well, I don't look at the situation that way. Your question again stems from the same attitude I was talking about. This false sense of self-importance.

I do

not look at India as a kind of permanent underdogs, just because we are no longer the permanent favourites. Then tell me how do you rate India as a hockey nation given its performances now, keeping all the nostalgia, the false sense of pride etc. out of our minds.

I think Indian hockey has seen such bad days before and it might see even worse times ahead. And at the same time, I strongly believe that in between we will re-emerge depending on circumstances and the relative strengths and weaknesses of our rival nations.

So, right now, we're down, yes very badly down, but that does not necessarily give one any reason to scream his head off and start a witchhunt laying all the blame on the doorsteps of the Indian Hockey Federation. Winning and losing is all part of a competitive game. Unfortunately at the moment India is on the losing side. We've been on the losing side for a long time, at least long enough for one to get used to it or get totally frustrated with it. Can the IHF or for that matter you personally deny your moral responsibility for the continuing debacles. I heard something quite interesting. Someone told me, "Mr. R. Prasad resigned from the chairmanship of the Indian Airlines when the ill-fated Airbus 320 broke the hearts of 90 families. Then why didn't he resign when the Indian

'As far as hockey is concerned we still nurture a false sense of pride, self-importance and nostalgia. We still believe that we should always be at the top. That certainly is not an attitude which has anything to do with reality...'

why is India perform

been lacking then...

disaster at Lahore broke the hearts of 80 million Indians?" I can very well guess who said this. I can even tell you where you heard this. Must be from one of those disgruntled fellows, happy to do their little scandal mongering in and around Delhi. To them it is more important and satisfying to see me quit rather than what purpose it will serve the interest of the game. Tell me how will it help if I quit. Someone else will come and rule and then India will fail again, and once again there will be demands for his removal. It will be a 'musical-chairs' situation, which I am sure will be even more detrimental to the growth of hockey. And be sure it is not the incompetence of the IHF or its officials which is causing all the problems, it is the incompetence, of a very vital

set of people which is hindering its progress, and India is still failing to match the latest developments in the technique of modern hockey. Who do you mean by 'vital set of people'?

'They (the players) have found a very convenient way of shrugging off the responsibility. Blame the IHF right, left and centre, and you realise the public attention is diverted from the main issues and their shortcomings'

R. Prasad: frank talking

Well, it is very difficult to spell out what I really mean. I do not want to get into any controversy. Controversies in Indian hockey trigger too much mud-slinging. But the fact is, in modern hockey strategy and tactics have assumed tremendous importance. So much so that hockey has almost become a thinking game, requiring almost essentially a brain, a sharp understanding and innovative brain, to guide a world beating team. While the



ng poorly?' ----R. Prasad

'Indian players do have a distinct lack of initiative'

West and others have had the fortune of having such people as managers and coaches, India unfortunately have run short at such talent. And that is why we're checking out the feasibility of bringing a foreign coach, I mean from one of those nations who have forged ahead of us in terms of strategy and tactics.

That clearly indicates that Indian coaches are lacking in those areas of strategy and tactics.

Well, I wouldn't like to comment on this, but if our coaches had not been lacking then why is India performing so poorly? Why is India failing over and over again to grasp the game the Europeans are playing? why do 11 of India's best hockey players look all at sea on the field whenever they face the Europeans?

But that maybe because of our lack of skill and general fitness and nothing to do with the coach!

'Indian players do have a distinct lack of initiative...they don't have any fighting spirit'

Coach Ganesh: axed



No, there's no 'maybe' in this case. If we lacked in skill or fitness we would have been found lacking in certain areas of the game like scoring or penetrating. We certainly would not have looked so confused, so much in disarray. Such things do not happen because of lack of skill or fitness but because of failure to understand the pattern of the game your opponents are playing. And if our players are to understand that, then we need coaches conversant with these modern and continuously changing aspects of the game.

Is it because all our veterans our past masters, belonged to another era and style of hockey that you think they would not be able to give the players the necessary understanding of the strategic aspects of hockey?

I would not like to make any further comments on this. I've already said enough to infuriate a lot of people and I don't want to elaborate anymore. I will have to work with these people and I cannot afford too many enemies, although I must say that none of these people who are criticising me have the courage and expertise to step forward and say 'okay, I'll take this challenge. Give me the responsibility of coaching the Indian team. By rectifying the errors, I will show you the errors you have been making. No one has the guts...

Today, to be honest, we're actually facing a coaching crisis in the country. Nowadays when we sit down to think of some likely candidates for the job we come across people who are either too old or too young. And then there is a third group—the most dangerous and useless group. These people are good, much more knowledgeable than others. But cowards. Their sole delight in life is to sit back idle and abuse the

They don't have any fighting spirit'

Hockey Federation in all sorts of ways. They will never step forward and say 'ok, I'll show you how to do it!'. "Why did not R. Prasad resign when the hearts of 80 million people broke?" they would instead say and then be quiet. What purpose is my resignation going to serve anyway?

So, were you not aware of these strategic and tactical shortcomings of Indian coaching before?

Yes, we were, most certainly. Then your choice of Ganesh as coach should either means you thought he did not have those limitations, or you chose him despite those limitations.

Well, as I said before, currently we are going through a phase of coaching crisis. So we didn't have much choice anyway. There is no point in arguing what kind of limitations he had, but at a given point of time he was the best man available. Whether his best could match world standards is a different question altogether.

But isn't it rather odd that all of a sudden all the blame is being laid on the coaches. Indian coaches seldom faced such scathing attack before, as if it is the coaches who matter the most not the players. It seems now you have found a convenient new scapegoat?

No, no certainly not. Players do have a lot of responsibility. In fact, I would say they are lacking in some vital areas, which I find almost unpardonable. There certainly is a distinct lack of initiative and sincerity in their effort. They don't have any fighting spirit at all, and on the other hand they are still talking about lack of facilities, incentives, all those standard excuses of a losing, non-performing Indian sporting side. They have found it a very convenient way of shrugging off the responsibility. Blame the Hockey Federation, right left

and centre, and immediately you realise that the public attention has been diverted from the main issues and the shortcomings.

But most people in the hockey circles believe that the present situation is the outcome of the accumulated 'sins' of the IHF, the discrimination, the politics, the meanness, the selection bungling and so on...

Accumulated sins? Nonsense. Yes, there have been mistakes here and there, selections have not always been to

everyone's satisfaction but then to run a big organisation like this, you got to make certain mistakes somewhere. But most of the time we have been wrongly blamed. Take the case of Shahid, his dropping. Everyone behaved as if he was the messiah of Indian hockey. This man, I tell you, was so unfit you won't believe. And he went around saying he was wronged. Nonsense. But believe it or not, Aslam Sher Khan told me he would win



'Take the case of Shahid, his dropping. Everyone behaved as if he was the messiah of Indian hockey. This man, I tell you was so unfit, you won't believe it. And he went around saying he was wronged. Nonsense...'

tournaments for India, if there had been a Shahid in the squad. And he also described Shahid's case as one of the most unpardonable and scandalous wastes in the history of Indian hockey.

Will he come forward to take up the coaching? And prove himself? Otherwise I would say people like him are doing no good to Indian hockey but instead exposing how irresponsible they are. These guys certainly are not the friends of the game. They think IHF is the enemy of the game. I think they are the real enemies. ●

Is cricket becoming increasingly racist? It was a Freewheeling in this magazine a few weeks ago that discussed Imran's editorial on why the Sri Lankans had no reason to feel insulted when they were called 'Brown Sri Lankans' in Australia.

This time it is Viv Richards being nailed to the cross after his comments about the composition of the current West Indies team were viewed as distinctly racist. Richards was speaking to newsmen about the racial make-up of the Guyanese team, one of whom, Carl Hooper, is in the international squad. He described it as an Afro-based team, which in a country where half the population has Asian origins, caused considerable resentment. *The Daily Express*, London, quoted a member of the Everest Cricket Club, Georgetown: "Richard's remarks have insulted us. He has never liked coming to Guyana and many of the crowd will be hoping that England win. He has insulted that man up there," he said, pointing to a photograph of Kanhai.

RACISM IN THE WEST INDIES

The word 'racial' is generally used to denote a bias between black and white; only that in the West Indies one finds it being used increasingly to highlight the ethnic prejudice between black and brown. It surprised a first-time visitor to the Caribbean; here, the antagonism between the

peoples of Asian and African origin was real enough to even spill onto the cricket field. I remember one instance clearly. A Guyanese magistrate of U.P. origin was driving me around Georgetown one afternoon, "I hope our boys do well," he said. "You don't need to worry," I replied, "your boys will thrash us anyway." He shook his head; "You don't

BROWN VERSUS BLACK!

From this articulate, literate intellectual to the general Asian-origin *janta* it was the same. They went out of their way to get their point of view across; how they had celebrated Pakistan's win over the West Indies in 1988; how the blacks had monopolised the power structure and isolated

YOU RACIST PIG!

RACISM IN THE WEST INDIES ?
MUDAR PATHERYA WAS IN FOR A
SHOCK ON HIS 50-DAY TOUR LAST
YEAR

understand," he continued, "I mean, boys...the Indians, the Indians." For a man whose forefathers had sailed out to South America as indentured labourers 150 years ago and made Guyana their home; for a man who had never seen India; for a man whose passport said 'Guyanese' it was surprising that he was supporting not his country of birth, but the land of his origin.

the Asians in a bureaucratic vacuum; how we tourists were only exposed to a certain facade that all was well, whereas the racial divide often took an ugly turn otherwise; how taxi drivers abused the blacks in the most colourful language imaginable and said what a contribution we would be making to them if Vengsarkar's Indians beat the West Indies; and how each time India lost in

Guyana it was setting the Asian cause back by years.

Some of the touring Indians gloated. Hypocrisy, I told myself. We take a certain satisfaction when the Asians in the Caribbean support the Indian team, but are provoked to riot when a certain community in India tends to support Pakistan during a cricket match! The composition of the West Indies team has always been a controversial subject in the islands. Critics have accused West Indian captains of selecting heavily from their own island; if he was a Jamaican he tended to favour Jamaicans at the expense of the Barbadians, Guyanese and Trinidadians. Take a current instance: with Viv Richards as captain, four other Antiguan have played for the West Indies—Richardson, Ambrose, Baptiste and Benjamin. Amazing for an island smaller than the municipal area of Calcutta!

7% OF WEST INDIES PLAYERS ASIAN

And then there is the racial bias. For countries where the Asian slice of the population is nearly 45%, Guyana and Trinidad have always had a disproportionate representation in the West Indian team. Till 1979, of the 173 cricketers who had played for the West Indies, only 12 had been of Indian origin—a mere 7 per cent. Whether one can write this imbalance



BUILDING
SOCIETY

Quicks for For

off as an instance of deliberate discrimination or Asian inability is beyond someone having spent only a month and a half in the Caribbean. In Trinidad it was no different. The ground in 1989 was full of Asians on the first day of the Test in the hope that the Indians would manage to put some spine into their batting. Vengsarkar's side disappointed and the galleries were deserted thereafter. If only maan you guys had won this Test said one we would have given you a party I remember.

REASONS FOR THE BIAS

In Barbados where the Indian population is a mix of Sindhis and Gujaratis the basis of the prejudice was monetary. Being an industrious lot the Indians virtually swamped the blacks and expatriate whites out of big business. So from a state of immigrant nervousness and naivete, the Indians have emerged an aggressive even ruthless trading force. Most establishments in the main shopping centre of this capitalist surfer's paradise are Indian. And the blacks are not amused. It was an article in a local Barbados daily that highlighted why the Indian immigrants are unwelcome. They keep to themselves they borrow and lend amongst themselves they maintain their own customs they ruthlessly undercut they have no interest of the island at



Demonstrators in Port-of-Spain protesting the dropping of Derryn Murray—another case of Caribbean favouritism?

heart and once they have exploited whatever the island has to offer they will take their profits out and move on to another trading centre.

RACISM IN SCHOOLS?

During the last Test in Jamaica a newspaper clipping revealed how racism had subconsciously filtered to schools. A 15 year old wrote an angry letter to a local paper. Sometime ago I wrote a letter to the class magazine commending its lovely centrespread story on Natasha Manley only to be met by much criticism by my friends who all liked it but added that I should not have written such a letter commending and encouraging her. They said Natasha is a snob. Most of them I have discovered were just plain jealous of her being the Prime

Minister's daughter and that she is a dark skinned person gaining a reasonable amount of attention. Luckily Natasha was blessed with good hair so she is not all in the dumpster. I thought if Natasha was our typical white skinned Prime Minister's daughter she would have been more easily accepted.

In an article done by Mr Michael Bourke on 25 March 1989 (*Jamaica Record*) entitled

Racism Revisited in which he spoke of a brown-skinned lady saying that she would never like any of her daughters to speak to anyone 'blacker' than herself is definitely a reality.

'My mother is guilty of it just like most other

Till 1979, of the 173 cricketers who had played for the West Indies, only 12 had been of Indian origin—a mere 7 per cent.

mothers who tell teenagers to go after the boy or girl with the lighter complexion (So they could have 'brown, brown' babies with 'pretty' hair). Very sad to say, our schools are filled with most teenagers grouping by the colour of their skin. The near white group, the 'dark brown' group and the black skin in another group of its own.

"When there is a mixed group the darker ones are made to know directly or indirectly that they are inferior to the others who are of a lighter skin."

'Just recently I was walking with a girl hugging her and one of my male friends approached us and said with sarcasm: 'So what, what am I have that me don't have?' he asked with a grin on his face. The complexion she replied laughing. Immediately I could see that he was a bit embarrassed but having dealt with this perhaps dozens of times he did not look ashamed he tried to laugh.

At that moment I was pensive. I asked myself: who has the right to decide that a person with a darker skin is inferior (or should act inferior)? Who has the right to decide that a big nose (like the one my critical friends pointed out about Natasha) is not as beautiful as a pointed nose?

"I will support Michael Bourke when he said: 'When we have come to the realization that a big nose and a dark skin is beautiful we will have made a positive step along the road to black liberation'."

AUCTION HOUSE



I would like to sell one Donnay tennis racket (Belgium) The

specifications are —Model Donnay Bjorn Borg, all wood light 3 I would be happy with Rs 500 for it

VARUN VOHRA
11B Sunny Park
Calcutta 700019
Phone 757642

I have two steel international model badminton rackets (King Rex) made in Indonesia The specification of the rackets

are —International model 1989—King Rex 120 75 100 gm String pattern 20 main 25 cross with original King Rex guts I would be happy with Rs 450 each

JAGODISH BANERJEE (GARA)
P O Chakdaha
Lalpur Nadia
741222

I want to sell a second hand Bullworker (Power-Flex) in excellent condition It is only two months old I am also interested in buying fitness related books

ANGSHUMAN CHAKRABORTY
119 South Bharatnagar
Siliguri 734404

I want to sell a pair of used badminton rackets along with a shuttlecock A carrom board with accessories in good condition is also available
MD SAYEED
C O Mood
Photographer
28 B Elliot Road
Calcutta 700016

I have some good cricket books for sale
KT TONY
Kuttikadan House
Kunnath Kunachira
Trichur 680006

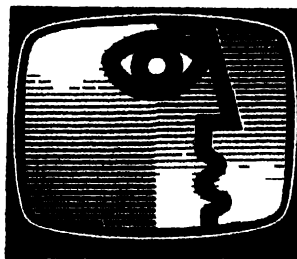
Have you got a sporting item at home that you would want to get rid of? Or something that you would want to buy, but don't know where to look? Why not advertise in this column? Write to 'Auction House', Sportsworld, 6 Prafulla Sarker Street, Calcutta 700 001. The service is absolutely free.

THE FAN CLUB

Dear Urmila Chhetry I am a fan of yours and hope you go on to win a gold medal in the Olympics I am sorry that I will not be able to organise any financial help for you You may not believe it but I was moved to tears to read how you had been treated by sports officials I hope you will be careful while training in your village pond I hope you go in for some immunisation vaccine
A JACOB PAUL RAJ, Madras

Want to tell your favourite sportsman something? Why don't you reach out for a sheet of paper and write? We'll carry your letter in our columns, which is as good a way of getting the text to them. Write to 'The Fan Club', Sportsworld, 6 Prafulla Sarker Street, Calcutta 700 001.

MEDIAWATCH



THE technical standard of the India New Zealand series highlights on television was high However the editing appeared to be a bit confused For example on the second day of the Napier Test they showed Prabhakar hitting a four and following it up with a two Yet the score read 41 As the program continued it became evident that the four day was hit the later stages of Prabhakar's innings Amazing
SANJAY KR JAIN, New Delhi

WHILE tuning in to ABC for the broadcast of the third Test between Australia and Pakistan I chanced to hear an interesting conversation It went Commentator Australia 0 10 Here is Wasim Akram comes in and bowls to Mark Taylor hits in the air but safe between third slip and gully for four Expert That was a fancy shot by Taylor but it was between Ramrez at third slip and Aqib at gully I could see a sigh of relief on both faces because had the ball gone to either one of them it would probably have been put down considering the standard of the Pakistan

fielding Commentator Maybe you are right Here is Wasim comes and bowls the next delivery to Taylor edged and dropped by Ramrez at third slip Akram glares at Ramrez
UMANG LUTHRA Ranchi

ONE must compliment Dr Narottam Puri for his sense of humour Amarnath was facing Malcolm Marshall After having played a ball defensively Amarnath bent to pick the ball up Suddenly he realised what he was about to do withdrew and sneaked Amarnath steered the next ball for two The return throw proved to be inaccurate and Dujon had to jump full stretch To avoid being hit Amarnath crouched Dujon did not realise that he was standing just in front of Amarnath and in the process tumbled over the Indian batsman

Everything happens to Mohinder Amarnath commented Dr Puri It had all of us in the Attab Hall common room of the Aligarh Muslim University in splits instantly
KAISER MOHD ALI, Aligarh

THE New Zealand commentator went into such an ecstasy describing W V Raman's strokeplay on the first day of the Test series that one of them even went to the extent of drawing a comparison with Frank Woolley That surely must be the high point of Raman's career
PREETI DIXIT Ahmedabad



IS ICE HOCKEY

Nice hockey?

EVERYBODY knows ice hockey is one of the fastest and roughest sports in the world.

Any normal game is bound to provide at least one casualty—the extent of injury caused differing from bad to worse.

But a match between the Los Angeles Kings and the Edmonton Oilers set new landmarks in rough play. Battling in a National Hockey League game, they set a record of 86 penalties in what amounted to a three and a half hour brawl. The Kings eventually won 4-2.

This record, however dubious, broke the previous record of 84 set by the Minnesota North Stars and Boston Bruins in 1981. And it saw a total of seven players ejected. A free-for-all with 41 seconds left included both the goalkeepers while fans booed and showered the ice with trash.

And they say that sport is the ultimate winner?

THIS column takes time off (occasionally) to sing the praises of unsung sporting heroes. People who overcome their deficiencies and inadequacies and make life worth living for themselves.

Bill Flink is one such sportsman. He is America's one-legged schoolboy wrestler who just goes from strength to strength winning 28 fights without a single defeat and is hoping to become a High School champ soon. A title he

WRESTLING WITH...

A drawback

wants to win for, "my mum and dad." Flint fights on his knees and exploits every advantage this style can give him. Opponents reach around to grab his leg and "it isn't there," says his coach, Cal Tackes.

Losing his leg five years ago in a farming accident, Flink wears an artificial limb, but removes it while wrestling. "I want to win bad, I like the feeling," he says. So what's stopping you, Bill?

BRIAN BECOMES...

A lecturer

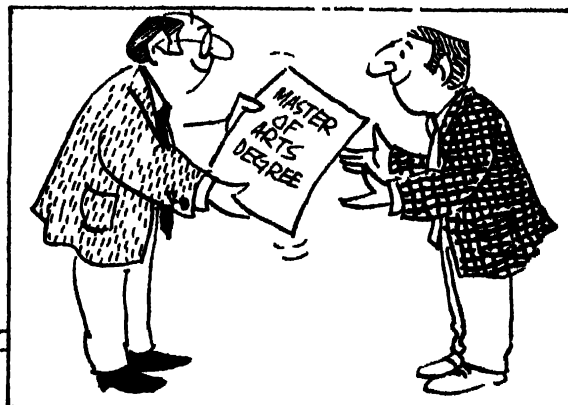
BRIAN CLOUGH, that great manager of Nottingham Forest, has finally had his leadership acknowledged, if only academically.

He has been awarded an honorary degree by Nottingham University. Members of the Senate announced this award in recognition of Clough's outstanding contribution to Nottingham life. What he has done for society, one is still ignorant about, but his services to football will be cherished by his club.

Said a spokesman: "When we are interviewing foreign students we realise how much he has put Nottingham on the world map, far more positively than anyone since Robin Hood. We feel it is fitting that we recognise his

contribution as an ambassador for this city."

Clough will be required to wear academic dress, including a gown, to receive his honorary Master of Arts degree on July 13. What's more, this will make him an official lecturer. Not too bad, considering he has been lecturing the team for years!



MODERN TIMES

THE TIMES, THEY ARE A'CHANGING!

Time must be the greatest of all tyrants. Perhaps because it dictates change. As in the other spheres of life, sport too has not been allowed to remain untouched by change. The next seventeen pages are a pictorial essay on the recent curious trends in sport. Of course, we cannot claim to have covered all that is new in sport. We have merely supplied a panoramic view. Innovation has altered sport into a greater entertainment than it has ever been

MODERN TIMES



WHAT'S NEW WITH CRICKET!

Channel 9, constantly inventive when it comes to cricket, strikes again. This season they experimented with a miniature camera in the middle stump in an effort to get even closer to the action. And boy did they! When Greg Campbell broke Aamir Malik's middle stump in two television watchers jumped. If it was in 3-D they would have probably fallen. Oh, and now Channel 9 is thinking of a camera in the umpire's cap. C'mon Aussie, c'mon!



Left: What's this mate? American style cheerleaders on the cricket field? Yup, the Australians are at it again. This sexy pom-pom brigade dished out 'dinner-break entertainment' for spectators at the recent Benson & Hedges World Series Final. With a couple of impromptu streakers thrown in, is the game still the main attraction?



MODERN TIMES

WHAT'S NEW WITH TENNIS



Flawed shoes, a sticky surface, fragile bodies?—who knows, but 1990 began by epitomising the concept of 'voluntary default' during January's Australian Open. Sensuous Miss Sabatini chased a drop shot all the



TOMMY HIGLEY



way to a wheelchair—she slipped, her ankle went but she did not cry alone. Aussie Mark Woodforde, (below) was stretchered to the same hospital, his ankle and dreams in tatters.



Stefan Edberg (left) was the Final victim (pun intended) when neither ice nor painkilling sprays could heal his strained stomach muscle. The tough guys at the Open sneered outwardly at questions of possible injury—but no-one hit the court without taped ankles.

MODERN TIMES

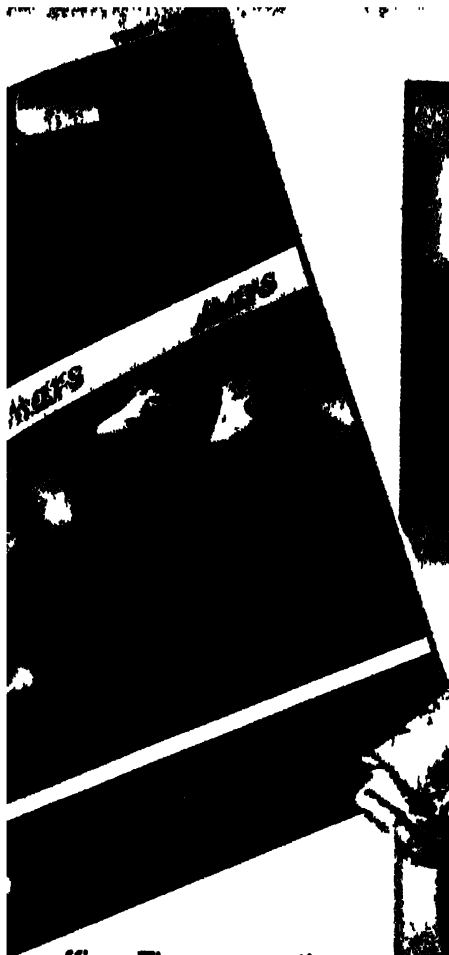


COLLIERPORT



WHAT'S NEW WITH ATHLETICS

The 'jogging for fitness' craze was at its peak in the late Seventies. This evolved into the marathon era in which every jogger worth his morning run ran marathons. And aimed to complete it. Today the casual jogger's ultimate ambition is no longer merely to cover the distance. But to do so with some amount of glamour and flamboyance. Our marathon man on the left carries royalty on his back in the form of a Prince Charles



effigy. The man on the Right is not out of the circus but just another competitor in the London Marathon. Why, last year one competitor pulled a Calcutta rickshaw through the streets of London, covering the entire distance of the city's famous marathon run.

Of course there are the more serious runners too. (middle) Legendary marathon lady Ingrid Kristiansen.

It has become customary fashion for marathoners to wear either one or a pair of gloves. Why? Maybe to absorb the sweat that trickles down the arms or to wipe the sweat off the brow.



MODERN TIMES

WHAT'S NEW WITH FASHION

Fashion, they say, is never beautiful: it just makes all that preceded it look ugly. Ivan Lendl (left) and Steffi Graf (right) capped off—with the Bushman's Akurba—exemplary performances at this



year's Australian Open in style. But for Britain's aqua-queen Sharron Davies, who models the latest in swim-wear (above) it was a case of 'if you can't win, you might as well look good!'

TORRY ANDERSON



WHAT'S NEW WITH GOLF

No, not airconditioned golf carts, but walkie talkies! Tony Jacklin, captain of the European Ryder Cup-winning team, prefers to lie back and monitor his team's progress via his handset rather than footslog it over the course with each of his players. "Hey, Seve, I told you to stay out of the bunker! Over and out"





TONNY LINDLEY

WHAT'S NEW WITH SNOOKER

Dope tests! Yes, it's not just for muscle and speed that sportsmen are popping tabs and injecting syringes. Even a placid sport like snooker has players resorting to beta-blockers to steady their nerves .and their cueing hand. It's unfair. But true

COLUMBIA

MODERN TIMES



WHAT'S NEW WITH MOTORCYCLE RACING

Metal knee-pads, that's what. With all top riders using their knee as a third wheel through fast corners, leather just wasn't tough enough. Metal came in and still gets worn out by race-end!



NIKE

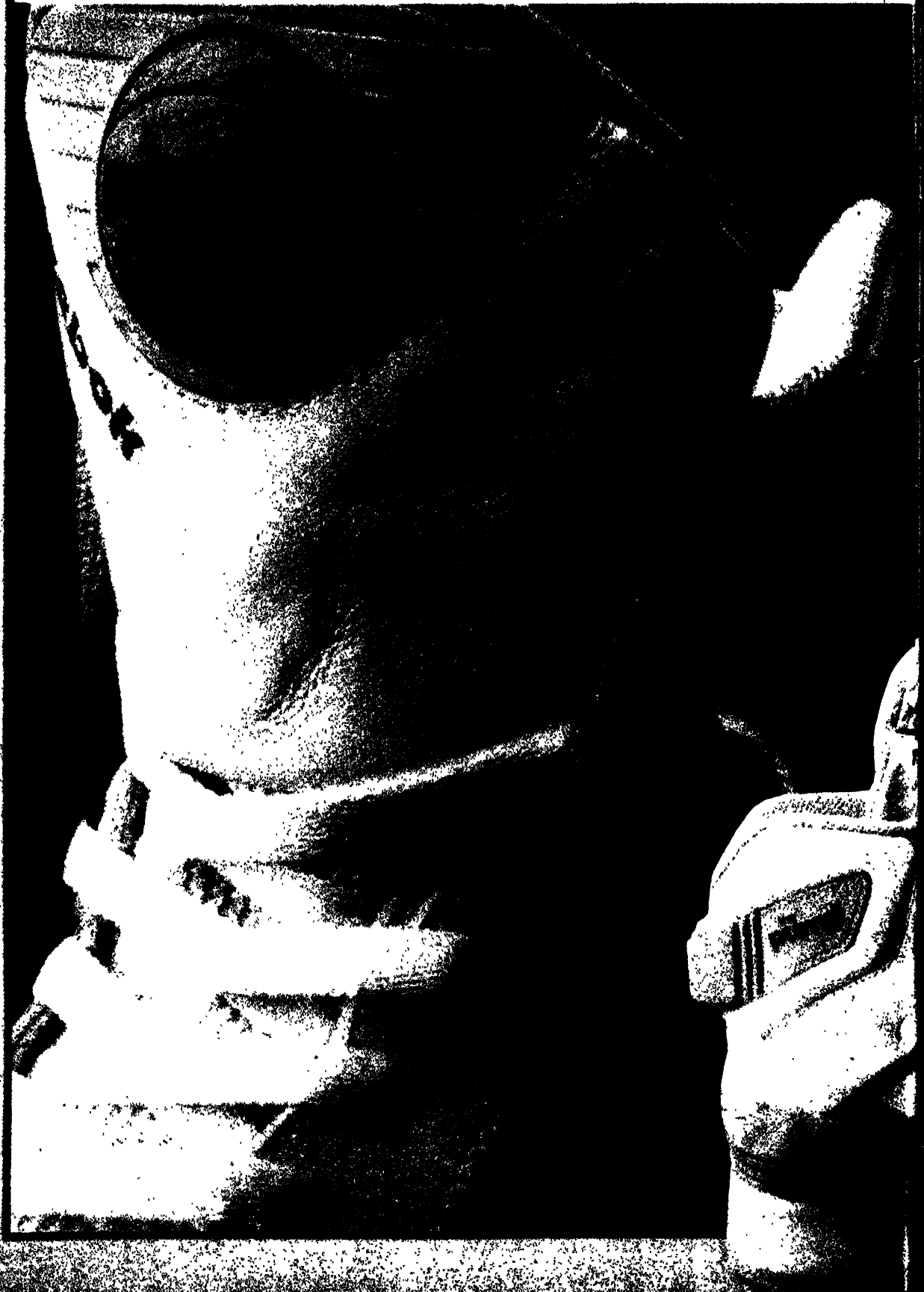
THINK BARCELONA.

WHAT'S NEW WITH ADVERTISING

Total sporting hype If you're going to sell sporting goods, sell it through a major sporting event. Like Nike and Barcelona 1992

MODERN TIMES

And they're like nothing you've ever seen before. Some have tongues you squeeze



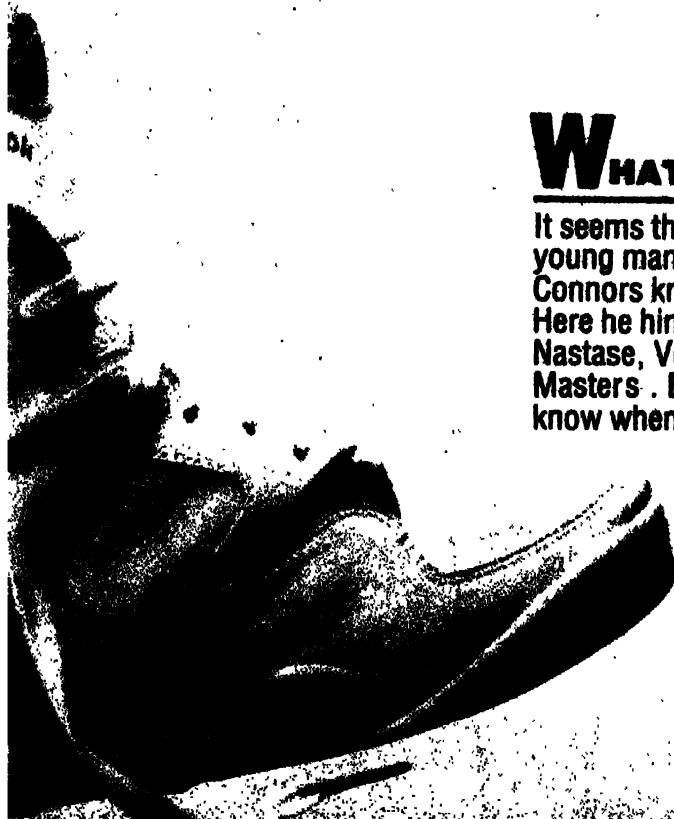


WHAT'S NEW WITH THE OLD BRIGADE

It seems they are at last realising that it's a young man's game. Even the evergreen Jimmy Connors knows which band he belongs to (top). Here he hints that soon he too will be joining Illie Nastase, Vitas Gerulaitis and the rest of the 'Old Masters'. But there are some who still don't know when to call it quits.

WHAT'S NEW WITH EQUIPMENT

In an era of helium bubbles and gel pads, Reebok hit the shoe market with The Pump. Using the tongue to pump air into carefully located air pockets, the shoe provides a perfect fit and prevents injuries. And once you're done with it? Just press the release valve at the rear and you're back to normal. What next?





TOMMY HINDLEY

WHAT'S NEW WITH FANS!

The many faces of today's sports fan Violent, boisterous and fanatical

The threesome on top display the West German colours and their teeth to the camera Below: Swedish fans support their Davis Cup team in their usual sober and decent manner But the guys in the middle are the ones to watch out for, they are the Deadly Brit fans. Notorious for their hooliganism they have affected world sport more than their national teams have done.



TOMMY HINDLEY

**INDIRA
GANDHI
GOLD
CUP
HOCKEY**



A Glimmer Of Hope

After the World Cup fiasco, India's new-look, second-string, national team did very well to finally win a tournament

WHAT a transformation Indian hockey went through in less than four days. From a complete washout at Lahore to an unbeaten track record at Lucknow! The annexing of the coveted Indira Gandhi Gold Cup—for the first time since its inception—is inspirationally laudable, even though it came from a lacklustre contest spread

over a week. But the mere fact that it came soon after the World Cup drubbing is a face-saving factor. It provides a glimmer of hope for the survival of the game.

Even though the tournament was robbed of all glamour with holders for two years Pakistan, World Champions Holland, Soviet Union and Spain staying out, the performance of the Indian 'new look' team, under junior international Jagdev Singh, is no

doubt creditable.

"We didn't go anywhere near winning the World Cup, but winning the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup, is a boon in disguise for Indian hockey. We youngsters have not let down the faith reposed on us. This victory is surely a step towards resurrecting the shambles of Indian hockey," said the Indian skipper and left back Jagdev Singh.

Holding Asian Games champions South Korea to a 1-1 **Success at last! The jubilant Indian team holds the trophy aloft (top left) while the South Korean skipper consoled himself with the runner-up trophy (above)**



draw in the last of the round robin league matches of the six-nation tournament at Dhyan Chand Astroturf Stadium in Lucknow, the Indian victory may be seen in favourable light. However, the team never combined to put up a resounding performance: their best coming in patches with individual form fluctuating. The most convincing victory came in the initial encounter against underdogs Kenya: 6-0.

Helped by a good display from the entire forward line and deep defender cum penalty corner expert Jagdev Singh, India maintained a hundred per cent penalty corner conversion. This victory perhaps gave the much needed boost to the young team.

"These youngsters, if groomed well and given all the facilities which we lacked, may come up very well to our expectations and can do wonders in the International arena", says international and recently retired left half Sujit Kumar, who otherwise is vehement against the hockey system in India which made him resign from international hockey in disgust.

His retirement is certainly a loss because his replacements—Ajit Lakra and Shakeel Ahmed—are not enough mature to step into his shoes. Of the two, Shakeel displayed more promise, strengthening his quest for a berth in the national side.

The Indian performance kept deteriorating as the tournament progressed. But sheer luck and good play in patches helped them sail through the tournament conceding just one goal, in the last of the league matches to Asian Gold medallists South Korea, while scoring 13 goals.

But had Korea won their encounter against Malaysia, which they ultimately drew 1-1, India would have lost the glittering Cup to the Koreans who had a better goal average, having scored 17 and conceding two, one each versus Malaysia and India. And it would have been no wonder; the Asian champions gave a better tactical display and used better combinations throughout.



The Indian team packs up after a job well done

Joyous celebration marked the busride back to the hotel





PHOTOGRAPH BY PANKAJ SHUKLA

In retrospect, their victories were more authoritative and authentic. Against Japan, who gave India a run for their money they won 0-7. In the next match against India, they took no chances and fought valiantly.

They were, of course, aided by India's poorest display in the tournament, the biggest disappointment being Dhanraj Pillay who preferred to play an individual game spoiling the complete cohesion in attack. "He is still our best bet amongst the lot and I found no reason to have him replaced in those moments," justifies Manager-on-promotion M. K. Kaushik (also the demoted Video-Cameraman of Indian team at Lahore!).

Even coach Chauhan resorted to similar views. India's poor display in the encounter can be vouched by the fact that we failed to convert even one of the seven penalty corners earned. In comparison to this zero per cent record, India had registered a hundred per cent conversion record in the opening tie against Kenya.

"I fail to understand the tactics evolved by our coach and manager", says R. P. Singh, one of India's finest right wingers today and an ardent spectator from the gallery. He further added about a similar bitter experience in the recent past. "Even in the Asia Cup

The Indian skipper Jagdev Singh accepts his medal from Lokpathi Tripathi

finals against Pakistan. I was very disappointed despite being in good nick and fully fit, Pillay was preferred over me even though he was limping with a twisted ankle", said the long-haired winger who has been a regular in the national side since 1986 Indo-Malaysia Test series.

If India had a cool clean victory over unfancied Kenya, another came from their second encounter against Poland whom they crushed 3-0 despite a better European style display from the tall Polish team. After these commanding victories India appeared more confident, yet did not impress against Malaysia. India won 2-0, creating a record of sorts by scoring one of the quickest goals (within half a minute) in hockey history.

After a disappointing display against Japan, the final league match of the tournament as expected was a tough encounter. The Koreans, having noticed India's weaknesses against the Japanese, were aggressive from the beginning giving India little opportunity to dominate. The only unfortunate incident came when the Koreans threatened to walk-out over a penalty stroke awarded by Umpire A. Scharser of

Australia

In retrospect, the tournament proved to be a grooming ground and provided ample exposure to our youngsters. Captain Jagdev Singh did well, as also did Shakell Ahmed, goalkeeper A. B. Subbawah, Darryl D'Souza and Atif Idris.

"This team could be a better replacement if we bring in a few experienced players and blend it with the new blood and make a winning combination out of it. All we need is to have a few victories continuously to keep us on our toes. And once the winning trend sets in, we can do wonders and that provided IHF willing, because unless we receive good facilities at par with other international teams, it will certainly effect our performances and we should also do out with those long training camps which is of no use," says a player who wants to remain unidentified.

"And despite all this, we have proved to the hockey afficiando in the country and the IHF that we can win and if given added encouragement and boost with right facilities, we can certainly regain our lost glory," chipped in another.

So perhaps, in a small sense, Indian hockey scored a point at last at the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup.

P. Ramesh Menon, Lucknow

WILLS GOLF

Wills Indian Open Golf Championship 1990

HEAVY WARNING CIGARETTE SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH

THE Old Course of the Royal Calcutta Golf Club has always been a challenging one. Very demanding. One which requires precision play. A top professional who can master his own temperament and fend off anxiety can expect to triumph on this course which plays long and has tricky greens.

Quite simply, you'll make it only by playing your normal game and keeping a constant check on your blood pressure. That was how Lu Hsi Cheun of Chinese Taipei won the last Open at the Royal in 1988. Playing brilliant golf

Debusk Basks In The Sun

Championship and there were unusually high scores from a foreign field which had a record entry of 182 (including 19 amateurs from 19 countries). In fact the winner himself was not identified till the 13th hole on the final day. An indication of the appalling scores was that the cut was applied at a high 153 (The foreigners were mostly 'greenhorns' who want to make it to the American and European PGA). And remember in 1984 when the cut was applied at 148.2 over par we said that was poor. Australian Stewart

and followed it up with an eagle the next day and yet he didn't win the title because his compatriot Graham Marsh beat him by three shots.

Ginn came to Calcutta after quite an absence. The course was in perfect condition but it played long. He predicted that the scores should be better than the earlier years. The winner should be at least 12 under or should get below 280.

His speculation proved correct. The scores were atrocious. Let's take a glimpse of the scores. The 79 who survived the cut played 316 rounds which saw only 33 sub par cards. And the winner didn't reach Ginn's expected total. The 24-year-old Texan Andrew Debusk, the ultimate champion, scored 288.

However, the perfect course condition saw the ageing Stewart Ginn claim the 5th spot with a four round aggregate of 296 along with Lin Keng Chi and American Home Johnson who perhaps had the longest drive. It seems Johnson's dumbbell workout before bedtime has helped in the phenomenal drives.

Since the Chinese Taipei golfers looked



Stewart Ginn takes a short nap on the 18th...waiting for the other players

Cheun increased his lead each day when golf was slow due to the murderously hot weather.

Not surprisingly then the course played havoc at the recent Wills Indian Open.

Ginn, a veteran of the Indian leg, is a name the golfing fraternity still remembers for his feat at Delhi where he probably created a world record with an albatross on the 17th on the first day of the 1973 Open.

rather depleted the pendulum swung in favour of the Americans. The frontline Americans for the \$1,20,000 prize money were Mark Aebli, Lee Porter and Robert Martin. Mexican Carlos Espinosa who lost to Canadian Remi Bouchard at Delhi last year, Jean-Louis Lamarre (Canada) and Stewart Ginn were formidable threats. But

golf had played the unpredictable pattern. Espinosa and Ginn only put up some laudable performance: Espinosa came second-six strokes more than the champion and Ginn consistently remained fifth from the second round onwards.

NOT a big name on the Asian Circuit American Gery Webb fired a 69 to lead the

field on the first day and hit the sports page headlines. But this enterprising golfer's challenge faded as he slipped down to 19th place from round two to the final day. His bad drives and pathetic putting lapses did him great harm.

And when Anthony Gilligan carded a 2-under at the cut, memories of former

Australian Indian open champions Peter Thompson, Brian Jones and Ted flashed by. Inspired by his wife Jenny, Gilligan led the field, but was constantly threatened by two others—Basad Ali, India's main aspirant who performed creditably at the last Open here, and Lamarre, who trailed by a shot each. But little



Andrew Debusk with the Indian Open Trophy

further back was Houston resident Andrew Debusk, quietly sharpening himself up for the final kill. The Taipei players, unfortunately were languishing in the wilderness, only Lin Keng-Chi producing brilliant form to card a 69 and make his presence felt. His countrymen Yu Chin-Han and Hsieh Yu-San did pretty well for themselves till midway but thereafter inconsistency engulfed them and the descent began fast.

On the third day Debusk made his move. He strode the course confidently, unaffected by the nervous tension which eventually devoured Gilligan. Undoubtedly, it was a day of wayward play but Debusk had prepared himself well to fight the odds and his cumulative of 218 took care of Gilligan's lead.

The Aussie was steady initially but his troubles began from the short 13th hole: his tee shot landed below a tree off and to a side of the green. He succeeded in

pitching the ball well onto the green but a bad putt cost him a stroke. He birdied the 15th but dropped two shots on the final hole. When his drive landed on the undulating ground behind a tree his wife Jenny looked uncomfortable and at

times bit her lips nervously. Gilligan was then in a terrible mess. He tried to lift his second over the tree but the ball hit the tree. However, from there he appeared to make a brilliant recovery yet double bogeyed. At 219, he then tied with Lin Keng-Chi.

Lamarre was still in contention. Basad Ali looked as though he has busted his chances when he lost six valuable shots thus enabling Firoze Ali to join him at 222 for the 9th place. As things stood the issue was wide open. The winner could be anyone among the

first ten.

Debusk had the edge. But could he win it—he'd only been a pro for 13 months and as an amateur record was not inspiring. His performance at the Thailand Open was mediocre. Yet on the final day he was



Basad Ali (left) looked as though he busted his chances when he lost six valuable shots in the 3rd round and gave the chance of Firoze Ali to catch up. But Basad was steady on the final day to finish joint third—his best Open performance. Anthony Gilligan (top) desperately searching for the ball which landed in the thick bush on the 9th...the start of his downfall. Lin Keng-Chi (right) in spite of cracking on the 13th hole looked quite jovial...here he is carrying the scoreboard

marvellous, especially in the second nine. He birdied the first, the ball went into the cup and bounced out on the second; his close putt lipped the cup on the third and then the Sunday crowd saw his perfect slice on the 4th (when he was -3) when

his shot landed ominously behind a clump of trees on the left. But he recovered brilliantly. By the 5th Gilligan was par, Lin Keng-Chi was -1 and Debusk -2. News flowed in that a birdie on the 7th by Firoze Ali had equalled Basad's +3.

A mishap on the 7th cost Debusk two strokes. His second shot went over the boundary which he said later "was my mistake and shouldn't have used the extra swing". But on the 12th the American looked tensed. The pressure was rising as Keng Chi

on the 17th made Debusk a clear winner, his first major triumph and a pay packet of \$19,992. Carlos Espinosa, who was placed 24th in the third round came second and Basad Ali and Aaron Meeks finished joint third. Basad needed the



was catching up. Then the sudden transformation came on the 13th. The ascendancy of Debusk was fantastic, while Gilligan and Chi began slipping away. Gilligan's fall began on the 9th when his drive landed into the thick bush and was made to take his third shot from the tee... +3 and by the 14th he was +6 (he recovered one shot later). While Debusk obtained a birdie on the 13th, Chi double bogeyed it.

Two more birdies on the 14th and 15th and

Vivek Bhandari outclassed Lakshman Singh to win the amateur title. Behind him is Ashok Malik

money badly. Perhaps to buy another golf set.

The amateur title fight was keenly contested. Lakshman 'Bunny' Singh who was playing rather well had to make way for talented Vivek Bhandari, son of former Test cricketer Prakash Bhandari, who outclassed the senior golfer by five strokes.

Subhash Sarcar

INDIAN

**DAVIS CUP
TEAM**

A SLOPPY SEQUENCE OF —SELECTION—

W

hen Neale Fraser speaks on Davis Cup matters people are inclined to stop and listen—they appear to recognise the great sense of purpose in the way he talks. Perhaps having both played in, and captained, a Davis Cup winning team allows for this.

On a hot summers day at the 1990 Australian Open, Fraser,

strode into a well attended press conference to announce the Aussie Cup team for their February tie against France.....he named Wally Masur, Darren Cahill, Mark Kratzmann, and John Fitzgerald, with Pat Cash as reserve and waterboy. Fraser's team was not his final choice—as per Davis Cup rulings he knew that this was merely a mandatory,

S. Vasudevan and Rohit Rajpal are selected to join Ramesh Krishnan and Zeeshan Ali in the Indian Davis Cup team for their tie against Japan. Leander Paes, the other contender is the reserve. While the selections themselves may be slightly disputed, it is the process and method of selection which requires to be updated



formal exercise and that he retained the prerogative of changing his team even 48 hours prior to the tie. He stressed this, explaining that his players would be required to play tough, serious matches against each other in the five days preceding the tie, on which basis he would pick his final four. This ensured a high degree of competitiveness within his team, his players aware that form, and not necessarily reputation, guaranteed selection. As it transpired, Cash replaced Kratzmann for the doubles.

Fraser's style is not original—it was a method used even by his captain Harry Hopman in the 1960s—but it remains a highly pertinent and workable system especially when a bunch of players are nearly equally gifted.

It is also a system that the Indians are conveniently ignoring, at a juncture where it might have enhanced a more complete and less disputed selection.



▲ Leander may be miffed on being made reserve



↓ Rajpal just edged out Paes for No. 4 spot in the team

S Vasudevan, Rohit Rajpal and Leander Paes were the obvious nominees for the two empty places in the Davis Cup team (with Asif Iqbal and Gaurav Natekar on the fringes).

Despite his lack of proficiency on grass, and his age (28), Vasudevan's Cup experience, highly combative attitude and zinger first serve, none of which are arguable, was his plus factor.

Rohit Rajpal's credentials of a semi final showing at the Nationals and one of the satellite legs (a doubles win included) were then considered enough to edge out Australian Open junior finalist Leander Paes. This, was AITA secretary R K Khanna's explanation.

Now, although the AITA executive committee formally announced the team as their decision, it appears clear that AITA put great emphasis on the recommendation letters from present non-playing captain Nareesh Kumar and Ramanathan Krishnan in these decisions. If that is true, although both men have impeccable credentials, would it be impertinent to ask whether either actually watched Vasudevan and Rajpal during the satellite series (or if the AITA cares if they did) I doubt it.

If that is not true, then did the deciding executive committee members (or selection committee) watch the satellite series? (None were at Australia for Paes for sure!)

If none are true, then it is truly a strange process of selection.

For me to suggest Leander instead of Vasudevan, or especially Rajpal, could be construed as nit-picking, for in all probability neither will play the tie. No, that is not issue—the style of selection is.

If, hypothetically, Paes (the reserve) easily consistently outplays Rajpal during practice matches at Chandigarh, will the team be changed—does that flexibility exist? It does in Australia, where Fraser possesses the authority to do so. Yet Nareesh Kumar, incomprehensively, has not been given that prerogative, and would need to consult the



Vasudevan has long hair, intensity and a hot serve

executive committee before altering his team.

If the AITA wants absolute commitment from Kumar, where he would willingly travel to watch his potential team players at various tournaments, they must grant him such powers. Most team captains all over the world have it.

By next year, barring Ramesh Krishnan, no single player will be able to take his place in the team

for granted. Under these circumstances, the AITA could easily announce a provisional team, inserting a clause emphasizing practice matches would eventually decide the playing four. How wonderful it would have been to see two young men, Paes and Rajpal, literally battling for a coveted Cup blazer. How the adrenalin would flow.

But then the entire selection sequence this year has been awry.

JAPAN WILL BE I

A VITAL lesson learnt from India's misadventure versus the South Koreans in Bharuch last year, was that the Asian countries are no slouches in tennis anymore.

This year at least Ramesh Krishnan will definitely be present and captain Naresh Kumar is surely expecting two singles wins and a helping hand in the doubles from him. As also a less nervous, more composed performance from young Zeeshan Ali.

Should Ramesh be disinclined from doubles play, Ali will be probably joined by S. Vasudevan with whom he had a reasonably productive partnership during the satellite series.

While the Japanese too had lost to South Korea last year it should be no indication of their ability—simply because they too were without their class performer, Shuso Matsuoka.

Matsuoka, a fit, rangy six footer has had the benefit of astute coaching. Trained at Harry Hopman's Tennis Academy, he was later coached by another Hopman protege Bob Brett (now in charge of

First, the AITA selected only two players, Ramesh Krishnan and Zeeshan Ali. Half a team made no sense, especially since the selection committee was not consulted, resulting in its chairman Jaideep Mukherjee resigning. Moreover, the AITA had then directed that only juniors would be considered for the remaining two slots (untrue it transpired). Matters became further farcical when three coaches (unheard of in Davis Cup history) Akhtar Ali, Balram Singh and Beant Singh were selected for the tie. And then to select the final two players, neither of whom will probably play, the AITA required its executive committee, what remained of the selection committee and recommendations from two former players.

LKOVER

Boris Becker). His height and athleticism almost automatically meant a preference for serve and volley, all of which he put to good use in 1988-89. A spectacular win over Miloslav Mecir, a close 7-6, 7-6 loss to John McEnroe and a career first final appearance at Wellington, New Zealand was enough to send his ranking to an all-time high of no. 60. His ranking has since fallen, but since the Japanese play very few tournaments it is not a correct indication of his standard. In addition Matsuoka is no mean doubles player, making him India's biggest threat.

Matsuoka will be accompanied by captain Hitoashi Hirose, Hidehiko Tanisawa, Haruo Nakano and Shigeru Ota. Two other Japanese players, presumably juniors, Kentaro Manuda and Toshihira Tsuchihashi will also be present.

Grass, yet again, will be our greatest advantage, and if India doesn't win this one, (which we should) we'll truly be in an almighty mess.
R.B.

Since the selection committee per se has been reduced to near irrelevance they might as well disband it. Ramanathan Krishnan and non-playing captain Naresh Kumar (both intelligent and wise) should be inducted into a core group, with a maximum of three other members, whose decision is final and binding. The more streamlined the system the less problems.

India is fortunate that it has a large group of aggressive juniors working hard and desperate to don a Davis Cup jacket—the least the AITA can do is ensure a system where the ones who will never wear it will realise they were not worth it, and not the other way around.
Rohit Brijnath

A SPORTS MEET WITH MORE EVENTS THAN THE OLYMPICS.

T H E S P O R T S W O R L D

Prelims April 5, 6 Finals April 7 at 6 p.m.

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R O U N D T A B L E Q U I Z

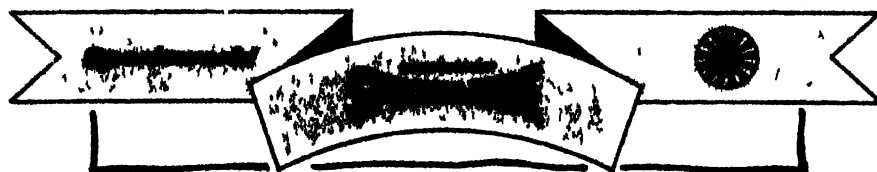
Quizmasters: Tiger Pataudi, Neil O'Brien and others

F O R T H E D U N L O P

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Organised by Calcutta Central Round Table 38

S P E C T R A - W I D E T R O P H Y



WHAT'S BENGAL DOING

Surprising their most committed supporters, that's what!

INSIDE the Bengal dressing room, Arun Lal called out to Saurabh Ganguly "Sit here and watch!" he instructed the youngster "Watch Ashok Malhotra, see how to play spinners on a turning track You won't get a better opportunity."

Not just Ganguly, but Malhotra's 258 not out in the Ranji semi-final against Hyderabad caught everyone's imagination. The track was by no means helpful for strokeplay as the odd ball stopped and turned. But Malhotra encountered the three Hyderabad spinners with ease. Ex-cricketers confessed that this innings would've done a Viswanath proud.

They say that, 'What's bred in the bone comes out in an innings.' Arun Lal's innings certainly reflected this. He followed the unbeaten 189 in the quarter finals with a somewhat sedate 93. Bengal was under pressure. Pranab Roy, who had co-starred in the quarter final win along with Lal, had fallen cheaply. Indubhushan Roy got 40 and went shortly before lunch. And when Snehasis Ganguly made an early exit it almost looked a replay of last year's Ranji final when the Bengal batsmen had surrendered meekly.

Only this time Arun Lal made the difference. Hyderabad let slip an opportunity

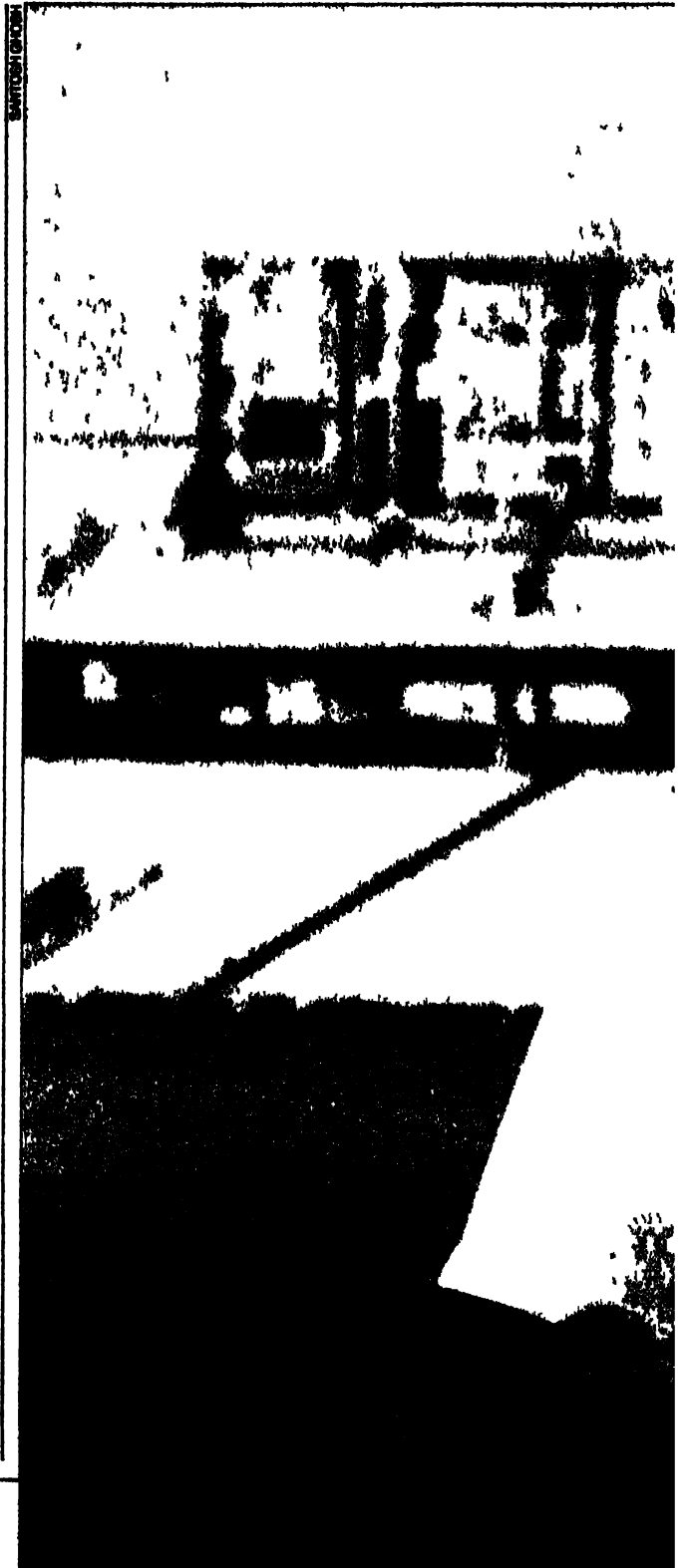
when it failed to run him out by yards. Lal was then on 37. He went on to score 93.

In the absence of Venkatapathy Raju, Hyderabad resorted to a three-pronged off-spin attack. As it turned out, they missed Raju more than they missed Azhar. Kanwaljit Singh bowled a deceptive loop, but sent down 13 no-balls. To make matters worse, Ayub and Yadav, for most of the innings bowled the wrong line.

This mistake was repeatedly pointed out to Bengal's debutant Saradindu Mukherjee during team meetings. The seniors asked him to pitch just on or outside the off stump. Which he religiously did. Immediate success. He became the first Bengali and fifth Indian to get a hat-trick in the Ranji Trophy. On the final day, Hyderabad needed 318 runs in 85 overs but collapsed.

That Bengal eventually made it to the Ranji final was no fluke. Five years ago even Jagmohan Dalmiya at his most optimistic wouldn't have imagined a successive entry into the Ranji finals. But truth, they say, is stranger than fiction. *From Gautam Bhattacharya, Hyderabad*

His first Ranji match—and a hat-trick! Saradindu Mukherjee triggered a Hyderabad collapse



N THE RANJI FINAL?



SIR PARTAB SINGH POLO





Action from the semi final match between Mewar and Fort William. Mewar beat Fort William 6½-1

total handicap of 11 amongst the teams that participated. But that didn't stop them from winning two tournaments.

By their superior all-round display, Mewar broke the Indian Army's hegemony on polo. In the final they trounced Pine 8-3 at the Jaipur Grounds, even though an injury sustained in the quarter final round kept James Lucas out. His brother William Lucas, also with an ankle injury, however kept Brig V P Singh in check. Pine, with a two-goal advantage on handicap with the versatile Brig V P Singh (4 handicap), just could not match the marksmanship of their opponents.

Navy Kapadia
PHOTOGRAPH BY RAJESH KUMAR

THE Spring Polo season in Delhi comprising three tournaments—Norther Cup, President's Cup and Sir Partab Singh Cup—came to an end in the second week of March. The most competitive tournament among the three being the Sir Partab Singh Cup which had a total of ten fixtures with all the leading polo players in the country participating.

The tournament, sponsored by Dalmia Resorts International Pvt. Ltd, witnessed high quality polo. And a noticeable feature of the spring polo season was the upsurge of civilian participation.

The outstanding team of the season was Mewar. Sponsored by the Maharaja of

Udaipur—in keeping with Rajasthan's rich legacy of polo, the Maharaja of Udaipur is striving to make Mewar the best team in India, he even sponsored the

trip of the three Englishmen James and William Lucas (both five handicap) and William Robert (four handicap)—the Mewar team had the highest

William Lucas (left) keeps Dr. Tony Singh of Pine in check during the final



RULE 19-2: BALL IN MOTION DEFLECTED OR STOPPED:
IF A PLAYER'S BALL IS ACCIDENTALLY DEFLECTED OR STOPPED BY HIMSELF, HIS PARTNER OR EITHER OF THEIR CADDIES OR EQUIPMENT, HE SHALL LOSE THE HOLE



LEASPR

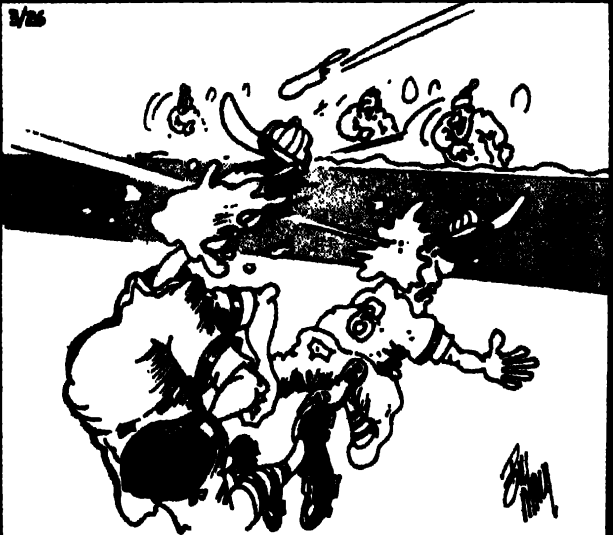
SECTION 1: ETIQUETTE:
IN THE INTEREST OF ALL, PLAYERS SHOULD PLAY WITHOUT DELAY



LEASPR

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME BY NASH & ZULLO

1/26



IN 1907, THE NEW YORK GIANTS FORFEITED A GAME TO THE PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—THANKS TO A WILD SNOWBALL FIGHT!

SCRAPING SNOW OFF THEIR SEATS FROM AN EARLIER STORM, NEW YORK FANS FIRED SNOWBALLS AT THE DODGING PLAYERS. WHEN THE FAN-MADE SNOWSTORM DIDN'T LET UP, THE UMP ORDERED THE FORFEIT.



IN 1986, AMOS OTIS, THE RETIRED STAR OUTFIELDER FOR THE KANSAS CITY ROYALS, DIVULGED A DARK SECRET KNOWN TO ONLY A HANDFUL OF TEAMMATES.

OTIS ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD USED AN ILLEGAL, CORKED BAT DURING THE LAST 14 YEARS OF HIS 17-YEAR MAJOR LEAGUE CAREER!

3/27



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

WERE getting to the end of the two-punch, one-kick combinations now. This week we'll discuss two straight punches followed by a *shoto-mawashi-giri* (a roundhouse kick that goes from outside to inside).

Very similar to the one discussed last week—where the roundhouse kick went from inside to outside to utilise the opening created by the dropping of your opponent's right hand—this one makes use of the opening created by the dropping of your opponent's left hand.

Use the two straight punches to push your opponent back, and if his left hand is slightly lowered thereby leaving his head open, launch into the kick. Make contact with your instep to his side of face or temple.

By Shivali Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



◆ Follow it up with a straight punch with the right hand

□ Throw a straight punch with the left hand

◆ Complete the sequence with a *shoto-mawashi-giri* with the right leg

Calcutta State Basketball

BURRABAZAR Yuwak Sabha (BBYS) extended their hold over the state basketball title by defeating Eastern Railway men 79-67 in an engrossing final at their courts recently.

Eastern Railway, however, did not go away absolutely disappointed as their women's team successfully defended their title for the eighth successive year. The Railway women crushed Calcutta Parsees 74-30 in an one-sided affair.

It was BBYS's sixth title in a row and no one argued that they were the best outfit in the state on the final day. Sanjay Goel yet again proved to be his side's pivot as the six-foot plus, lanky hoopster scored 36 points to extinguish Eastern Railway's hopes of a fightback.

But it wasn't till the 18th minute of the match that the BBYS men really stepped on the gas. Goel played true to form as he scored at will.

Eastern Railway were troubled briefly when their chief man upfront Ajit Kumar Bramha failed to come good and he broke his rhythm by indulging in too much foul play. By the seventh minute, Bramha was already booked for four fouls and was thereafter effectively blunted.

The Railway's Paul Mampillay, too, was a disappointment as he had to be sidelined in the 14th minute of the second half due to indifferent form.

Only Dharendra Kumar waged a lone battle for the Railway men. Kumar got 27 points for his side and that was his team's best effort that day.

The Benarasi Devi Changoiwala Trophy was wrapped up convincingly by Eastern Railway's women's outfit as Parsees just could not put up a semblance of a fight. Strengthened by the presence of Valsa Joseph and Smita Pal, both of whom failed to make it to the national side for the Asian Basketball Championship



The women's champions:
Eastern Railway

by a whisker, Eastern Railway had the game sewn up already by halftime. They led 39-12 at that stage.

Kala C bagged 16 points for the winners, while Silvana D'Costa fetched another 15 to the Eastern Railway kitty. Meher Khambatta fired 12 points for the losers.

Gosto Pal Soccer

IN a second session surge by Bidhannagar Government High

School, Tentulberia Anukul Chandra High School were swamped 0-3 in the final of the Gosto Pal Memorial football championship at the Jadavpur University ground.

After a barren first half, Bidhannagar's skipper Amit Ghosh broke the stalemate scoring from the spot. The lead was doubled by Samip Mukherjee. Mukherjee put the issue beyond doubt by netting Bidhannagar's third goal.

In the semi-finals, the Bidhannagar Govt. High School lifted the Gosto Pal trophy



champions edged out Haldia High School by the slenderest of margins. The matchwinner came off the boot of Shuntoo Naskar.

Tentulberia were however more emphatic in the semi-final triumph. They trounced Krishnadebpur High School, Bardhaman 3-0 with goals coming from Sukhendu Mondal, Gosto Mondal and Subrata Naskar.

Inter-orphanage Sports

RAMKRISHNA Mission Boys' Home, Rahara, emerged on top of the boys' section while the girls' crown was shared by Bhagirathi Shilpashram, Nadia and Govinda Kumar Home, Panhati in the fifth national integration camp and all-Bengal inter-orphanage sports meet which concluded at the SAI-Netaji Subhash Complex in Salt Lake recently.

Three hundred and fifty two boys and girls from 40 social welfare homes took part in the meet restricted for competitors between eight and 16 years. Competitions took place in 31 events. The meet was organised by the Dakshin Kalikata Sevasram.

The following are the individual group toppers: Boys (Group A) Pradip Das (R K Mission, Rahara); Group B: Gopal Naskar (Sishu Kanan Welfare Home, Miharmpore); Group C: Samarendra Das (R K Mission, Rahara); Girls (Group A) Rita Ghosh (Bhagirathi Shilpashram, Nadia); Group B: Jharna Das (Bhagirathi Shilpashram); Group C: Deepali Kundu (Vidyasagar Balika Bhavan, Midnapore).
Soumitra Bose

PALAI

National Ball Badminton

DESPITE stiff opposition, Indian Railways and Kerala managed



The women's champions: Kerala

to hold onto their titles in the men's and women's section respectively in the 35th National Ball Badminton championship held at the Lal Bahadur Stadium.

In the men's super league Railways won four out of their five outings. Though Central Public Enterprise Board (CPESCB) derailed the Railway men in straight sets 29-15, 29-25, they later overcame formidable Hyderabad 29-28, 19-29, 29-15 to keep their hopes alive.

In the crucial match, Railways beat Karnataka 29-24, 29-18 to lift the Alladi Krishna Swamy Cup for the fifth time. Ramamurthy and Arjuna Award winner P. Rajaram excelled for the champions. Hyderabad finished second pushing CPESCB to the third spot on better game average.

The Kerala girls defeated Karnataka 29-23, 28-29, 21-14, in a ding-dong battle to claim the Shanta Rangaswamy Cup. The home team did not play at their best and conceded a number of negative points. Still Karnataka

had to be satisfied with the second place. Kerala Captain Mridula Kumari was the star performer. While Hyderabad drubbed Tamil Nadu 29-19, 29-13 to secure the third spot.

The following players were honoured with the star of India awards: **Men:** Syed Rafee (Hyderabad), Dhruva (Karnataka), Ramamurthy (Railways), D. S. N. Raju (CPESCB), Marimuthu (Tamil Nadu). **Women:** Mridula Kumari, Sindhu, Geetha (Kerala), Veena Ramesh, Asha (Karnataka).

District Collector S. M. Vijayanand gave away prizes to the winners.
Sajeer Kumar T.K.

MADRAS

Cent Car Rally for the Blind

ONE has heard of "the blind leading the blind", as the expression goes. But what about when the blind lead the sighted? And yet this is what the Cent Car

Rally for the Blind is all about For it is the driver with normal sight who has to depend on the blind navigator for directions and instructions

This popular annual event was started in Bombay in 1985 and soon the Cest Car Rally for the blind was held in Delhi, Calcutta and Madras In the southern metropolis, the rally had its debut last year and was an immediate success with over 75 participants, of which three were all women's teams

The rally covered around 80 kilometres within city limits and the route printed in braille was "read out" by the navigators

This year the rally, organised by the Tamil Nadu branch of the National Association for the Blind, the Himalayan Rally Association and the Madras Motor Sports Club, was an even bigger event judging by the number of entries About 84 cars took part and 73 of them completed the course The organisers and sponsors were so pleased with the response that they hope to achieve a target of 120 entries next year and also simultaneously conduct it in Bangalore and Hyderabad too

Last year's winning duo of Meena Dalal (driver) and Dipti Bhatia (navigator) repeated the feat this year Only this time they had to share the honours with A Murugan (navigator) and Rajiv Chowdhury (driver) Both shared the top spot finishing with five penalty points each (Last year Meena and Dipti had won with zero penalty points)

Dipti who is a post graduate comes from a family involved with motor sport and Meena has struck a good combination with her

"Our partnership is well set and we are looking forward to a hat trick next year", said Meena who is the elder sister of former Indian women's cricket captain Stina Shah

For Murugan, the victory provided a special thrill, for he met with an accident en route to the venue last year But this time, with an experienced driver like Rajiv Chowdhury as his companion, he did not falter



Joint Winners of the Rally.
(From left): Meena Dalal and Dipti Bhatia; A. Murugan and Rajiv Chowdhury

Leelavati (navigator) and Dr Saboo (driver) took second place with 6 penalty points In third position were L Viswanathan (navigator) and Deepak Singh while Muzhumathi (navigator) and Savita Idnan, the chairperson of the ladies chapter of the MMSC were fourth

Partab Ramchand

BANGALORE

Junior State Athletics

THE Junior State athletics championships was conducted at Bangalore recently In the two-day meet the most heartening performance came

Chandra Bhushan receives the singles trophy from Durgadas Boro, the Minister of State for Home and Sports and Youth Welfare

GUWAHATI

All-India Postal Lawn Tennis

THE Fifth All India Postal Lawn tennis championships was held recently at Guwahati Altogether 13 players took part, the players coming from Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and hosts Assam

The final was between Chandra Bhushan of Bihar and his teammate Dharendra Kumar Bhushan won 6-0, 6-1

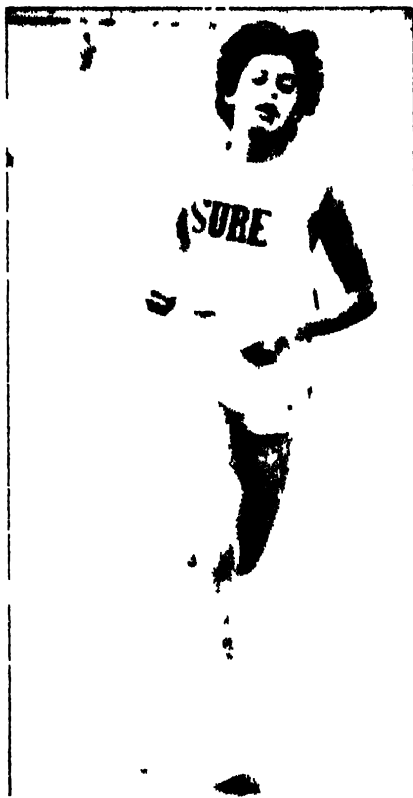
In the doubles final, Bhushan in partnership with Dharendra Kumar, defeated the Andhra Pradesh duo of N Venkataramiah and K Basudevachari 6-0, 6-2
Boney Sen



from Poonam Singh in the under 18 category for girls. She won the 800m, the 1500m and the 3000m. Kamala Siddi, one of the Special Area Games trainees of the SAI, broke the existing national record in the heptathlon event in the under-15 category.

Sunil Abraham

Poonam Singh: under 18 champion



The winners: K.K. Bhattacharjee and Probir Roy

CALCUTTA Merchants' Cup Bridge

THE inaugural championship consisted only of a pairs event held at the Saturday Club. The response was quite good with 50 pairs including nine couples from 29 firms taking part, the largest contingent of 10 pairs being from the sponsors Dunlop. The participants included four internationals, one national champion and a well known badminton player of the sixties.

After two eliminations the field was reduced to 24 pairs and the only firms with more than one pair in the final turned out to be Dunlop (3), Assam Company (2) and Bengal Chemical (2). Two of the internationals, M L Capoor, Managing Director of Dunlop, and Smt. Kalpana Mishra (ITC), perhaps because they were playing in an unfamiliar partnership, failed to survive the cut to the final.

The final, though a bit short, was not bereft of excitement. Two of the strongest contenders on paper, M M Roy-O P Choudhury and the Kejriwal brothers, S N and Prakash, surprised all by never being in the run. H S Bajonia and B Murarka of

Hemlata Textile started well but were overtaken by P Roy and K K Bhattacharjee of Bengal Chemical with only three boards to go when the former bid to an optimistic game going down. The Roy Bhattacharjee duo managed to cling on to their slender lead despite a strong finish by the runners-up. The other pairs were nowhere near and third placed D Chakraborty G Ghosh of Indian Oxygen finished nearly two and a half boards behind.

Santanu Ghose

RANCHI Inter-Audit Hockey

AG BHUBANESHWAR of Orissa won the East Zone Inter-Audit hockey championship when they defeated A G Ranchi of Bihar, 3-2 in the tie breaker.

The final, which was played at the BMP stadium, was played at a furious pace but none of the teams could draw blood. Eventually it took the tie-breaker to break the deadlock. S Baxla, N Pall and M Minz scored for Bhubaneswar while K Sanga and P Topno scored for the hosts A G Ranchi.

Earlier, in the semi-final, A G Bhubaneswar defeated A G Patna 3-1 while Ranchi got the better of West Bengal by a solitary goal.

Anil Kumar Singh

Hard-Hitting

YOUR cover story, 'Drugs In Indian Sport' (*Sportsworld*, 14 Feb) was a hard-hitting one. Perhaps even harder than Tyson's left hook. It is obvious now that most of the Indian athletes do take drugs. No wonder that some of them have desperately asked for promotions knowing that the cat might get out of the bag during the Beijing Asiad.

The stalling of a dope testing lab by vested interests in the AAFI confirms the involvement of coaches and officials in this merry game of deception.

The only way to check this menace is by having surprise dope tests by independent government agencies during the next few months and at the Asiad trial. After all, it would not do our country's image any good if a Subrata Paul type of incident recurs.

AMIT KR DAS,
Calcutta

The Conclusions

THESE are the conclusions that can be got from the recently-concluded series against New Zealand:

- 1 Azhar is captaincy material and must be retained as captain
 - 2 Bishen Bedi should be retained as the manager of the Indian cricket team
 - 3 Manoj Prabhakar has really matured and should get a regular slot in the team
 - 4 Atul Wasson has solved the problem of the third seamer with some superb performances in New Zealand
- KANISHKA DUTTA,
Calcutta

Disgusting

IF the performance of the Indian cricket team at New Zealand was very disappointing, the utterances by the cricketing manager Bishen Singh Bedi was really painful and 'disgusting'.



Bishen Bedi

Statements like 'I won't stop any player who wishes to commit suicide' and 'The Indian team should be thrown into the Pacific Ocean' are unnecessary.

Who the hell does he think he is? Who gave him the authority to utter such vile statements? I have never heard of a team manager who brings down the morale of his team in such a manner?

I wonder whether Bedi has heard of words like 'diplomacy' and 'decency'?

I request the BCCI to take action. Also the Indian Players Association should initiate some action against him so that in future no other team manager makes such outrageous statements.

S SURESH,
Madurai

Astonished

I WAS astonished by the remarks made by Bishen Singh Bedi after India lost a one-day international to New Zealand. His statements were unwarranted and I think that instead of motivating the players, he is deflating them.

In fact, as a true manager, he should lead from the front and lead the guys straight into the Pacific Ocean.

P V NATHAN,
Coimbatore

Thanks

THANKS a lot for the exclusive photo feature on Nadia Comaneci. It was amazing to think that Nadia has turned out like this. We look forward to a similar photo feature on Gabriela Sabatini and other such famous tennis players.

TANIMA RAY
Calcutta

No Fighting Spirit

I HAVE always seen India lose in international competitions. We lose our matches which we are almost winning and we lose matches when we are hopelessly defeated. There is rarely any fighting spirit among us Indians. How easily we give up. It is therefore of no surprise that India rarely wins any international tournaments in any sport.

TUHINA SAHA,
Calcutta

Master Blaster

THANKS very much for the super poster of the German hockey dynamo, Blocher. He is a real master blaster, who prowls in the defence areas of the opposing teams and cracks the board as if like a cannon-ball. But an action poster would have been better, however.

AJAY DIKSHIT,
New Delhi

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 Ty Cobb is often regarded as the greatest baseball player of all time. What is his full name?
- 2 Of the three goals scored by Geoff Hurst in the 1966 World Cup soccer final, one was by his right foot, one was by his left one and one was by his head. In which order did he score?
- 3 The triple jump involves three separate jumps—hop, step and jump. How is the final jump different from the first two?
- 4 The first name of an Olympic champion sprinter inevitably reminds us of an elevator manufacturing concern. Guess who?

ANSWERS

- 1 Tyrus Raymond Cobb
- 2 Hurst headed the first goal, scored the second with a right footed shot and the third with a left-footed shot
- 3 The hop and step are made with the same leg and the final jump with the other leg
- 4 Otis C. Davis (USA) who won the 400m gold in 1960

CHESS

The Classical Kings Indian Defence leads to blocked centres and wing attacks. The onus is on black to breakthrough, because his king bishop will get throttled in the ending. So, usually black will take greater risks in the middlegame.

White Portisch Vs Black Nunn Skelleftea, World Cup '89

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Nf3 0-0 6 Be2 e5 7 Be3 h6 8 0-0 Ng4 9 Bc1 Nc6 10 d5 Ne7 11 Ne1 f5 12 Bxg4 fg4 13 Nc2 g5 14 Ne3 Rf4? Black must expose his rook, because 14...h5 15 h3! gh3 16 Qxh5 hg2 17 Kxg2 Rf6 18 Ng4 is definitely good for white.

15 Bd2. Here white had to consider 15 Nf5 Nxf5 16 Bxf4 ef4 17 ef5 Bxf5 or 15 Ne2 Rxe4 16 Qd3 Rf4 17 Nxf4 ef4. In both cases black has enough for the exchange.

15—Bd7 16 b4 Ng6! this is an

improvement on Kasparov Vs Nunn when black was struggling after 16—Qf8 17 Rc1 Nh4 (Diagram). Once again 17 Ne2 Rxe4 18 Qc2 Nf4! 19 Qxe4 Nxe2+ 20 Kh1 Nd4! or 17 Nf5 Rxf5 18 ef5 Bxf5 leaves black in a decent position.

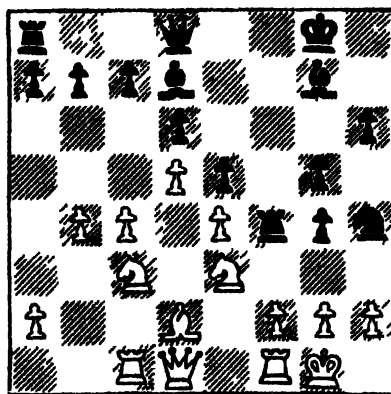
18 Kh1? Portisch should have tried 18 f3 gf3 19 g3 Qf6! immediately and continued 20 Rf2! Rf8 with violent complications. Note that 20 gh4 f2+ is very dangerous while 20 gf4 ef4 21 Nf5 Bxf5 22 ef5 Qxf5 loses outright. The white king is no safer at h1 than at g1, and the tempo is vital.

18—Qe8 19 f3 gf3 20 g3 Qh5 21 gh4? 21 Rf2! is the only move though black can play 21—Raf8 with a strong attack. 21 gf4? ef4 22 Nf5 Bxf5 23 ef5 Qg4! 24 Rg1 Qg2+!! is an attractive way of getting mated.

21—Rxf4 22 Rf2 g4 23 Nf1 Rh3 24 Kg1 Qg6 25 Ng3 Rf8. Clearly black is now winning for the g and h pawns are like battering rams. 26 Nf5 Rxf5! 27 ef5 Bxf5. Sacrificing the exchange to keep control of e4 ensures the pawns can't be blocked.

28 Ne2. Desperation, but 28 Qf1 g3 29 Rxf3 gh2+ 30 Kf2 Rxf3+ 31 Kxf3 e4+ is no better. 28—fe2 29 Qxe2 Bd3 30 Qd1 31 hg3 Be4 (0-1).

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Today's hand raises the age-old problem for declarer of whether to choose the technically correct line or to take an inferior line that gives a better chance against improper defence.

Dealer South	Rubber bridge	None vul
	NORTH (dummy)	
	J973	
	K5	
	9742	
	AK5	
WEST		EAST
852		KQ64
QJ108		973
AQ6		K81
1074		982
	SOUTH	
	A10	
	A642	
	J105	
	QJ63	
		NORTH
		1
		3 NT(!)
		Pass

During the auction East had casually asked the meaning of the spade bid. The heart queen was led and on winning in dummy I could see that my only chance was to play for East to have started with a spade honour singlet, or doubleton or else king-queen to exactly three. Accordingly, I led a spade off the table at trick two, winning with the ten as East played low. Now the spade ace, hoping to catch a spade honour from East in which case one more spade could be set up, but East had started with one spade too many. Down one.

Could I have made the hand? Prakash Kejriwal, a national champion who was watching the game, suggested pulling the spade jack from the table at trick two. If East covers as he well might, I could win and play the ten. East would do best to refuse this but I could then have crossed over and pulled the spade nine, pinning West's eight and setting up dummy's seven. Of course, this line is technically incorrect as it has no hope if East refuses to cover on the actual hand and also gives up on the chances of East having started with a singlet or doubleton spade honour or KQx (except KQ or K8 or Q8 or Q8) for then East covers the jack leaving declarer resourceless.

Should I have taken this technically inferior line? Prakash seems to think so for, as he pointed out, East's needless query about the spade bid indicated that he had spade length in which case the technical line is a no-hope play in any case.

Santanu Ghose

CARECA:

THE RETURN OF THE NATIVE

A

ll of a sudden the Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni has an embarrassment of riches

It was not too long ago when Brazil caused heartaches all over the world, as its game began losing that unmistakable flair that has always characterised Latin American soccer

For all the recent Argentine uprising it is Brazil whom the pundits and connoisseurs have always looked up to as the cream of South American talent. To them the prospect of a crumbling Brazil was disconcerting enough to cause a sense of decay in world soccer. Brazilian football was in a mess. And the awareness was distressing.

But, perhaps, no one felt the pain more acutely than Sebastiao Lazaroni whose eventful stint as Brazil's helmsman is now about to give him the image of a national saviour, for the simple reason that Brazil is now on her way back—to perhaps that hallowed realm of glory where she really belongs.

The reason? Although some say it's all Lazaroni's luck, the fact is that Brazil has suddenly had a surfeit of talented players returning to form. And Careca is one of them. Lazaroni's main dilemma now is that he has three world class centre forwards: Careca, Bebeto and Romario. Lazaroni, therefore, has to leave a player that most managers would give their right arm for, or he has to field all three of them together, which would create an irresistible frontline but in turn would

weaken the midfield.

Lazaroni, in all likelihood, would opt for the most dynamic choice—the Careca-Bebeto combination. For, on the one hand the third centre forward, Romario's temperament is suspect while on the other the genius of Careca is one indispensable factor the Brazilians will have to utilise fully.

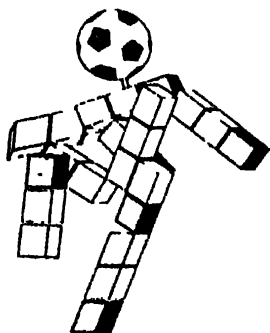
Aged 29 with 7 caps Careca was Brazil's top scorer in the last World Cup which certainly is a measure of his flair and experience.

Moreover, for a considerable period last season he showed the kind of consistency which made him the most reliable and innovative player in the forward line. Even though he missed the prestigious Copa America last year because of nagging injuries Careca overcame his handicap whenever he could play a vital role in Brazil's qualification campaign for Italy.

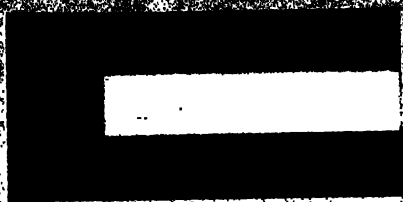
And the highest point in his pre World Cup campaign came when against Venezuela, he scored four goals with spectacular aplomb.

Subsequently, he gifted Brazil the match-winner against Chile at the great Maracana.

Pundits say all that is missing in the Brazilian squad now is someone who can control the game in the old Zico style. Perhaps, in Italy the shadow of Careca will continue to grow and Brazil will thrive under the all-embracing versatility of this talented ballplayer. ●







U.A.E.

(United Arab Emirates)

0

ON December 2, 1971, the world awoke to the reality of the birth of the newest Arab state in its midst—the United Arab Emirates. In 1972 the U.A.E. became a member of the FIFA. In 1986, it finished fifth in the Seoul Asian soccer championship. And in 1989, the U.A.E. qualified for the fourteenth World Cup in Italy!

The sixth-most powerful OPEC petroleum exporter is now manifesting Arab soccer might on the world level.

The U.A.E., located in the eastern Arab peninsula, is surrounded in the east by Oman; the west by Qatar; the north by the Persian Gulf, and the south by Saudi Arabia. It squeezes a total population of 1,194,000 within a mainly desert topography, of 77,760 sq. km., almost half of whom are other Arabs from neighbouring states, employed as bureaucrats and upper level managers; Pakistanis and Iranians (generally coolies and indentured labourers), and Indians (employed as clerks).

This loose federation consists of seven Emirates, each with its own ruler. They are—Abu Dhabi (Capital city); Dubai; Sharjah; Ras Al Khaimah;

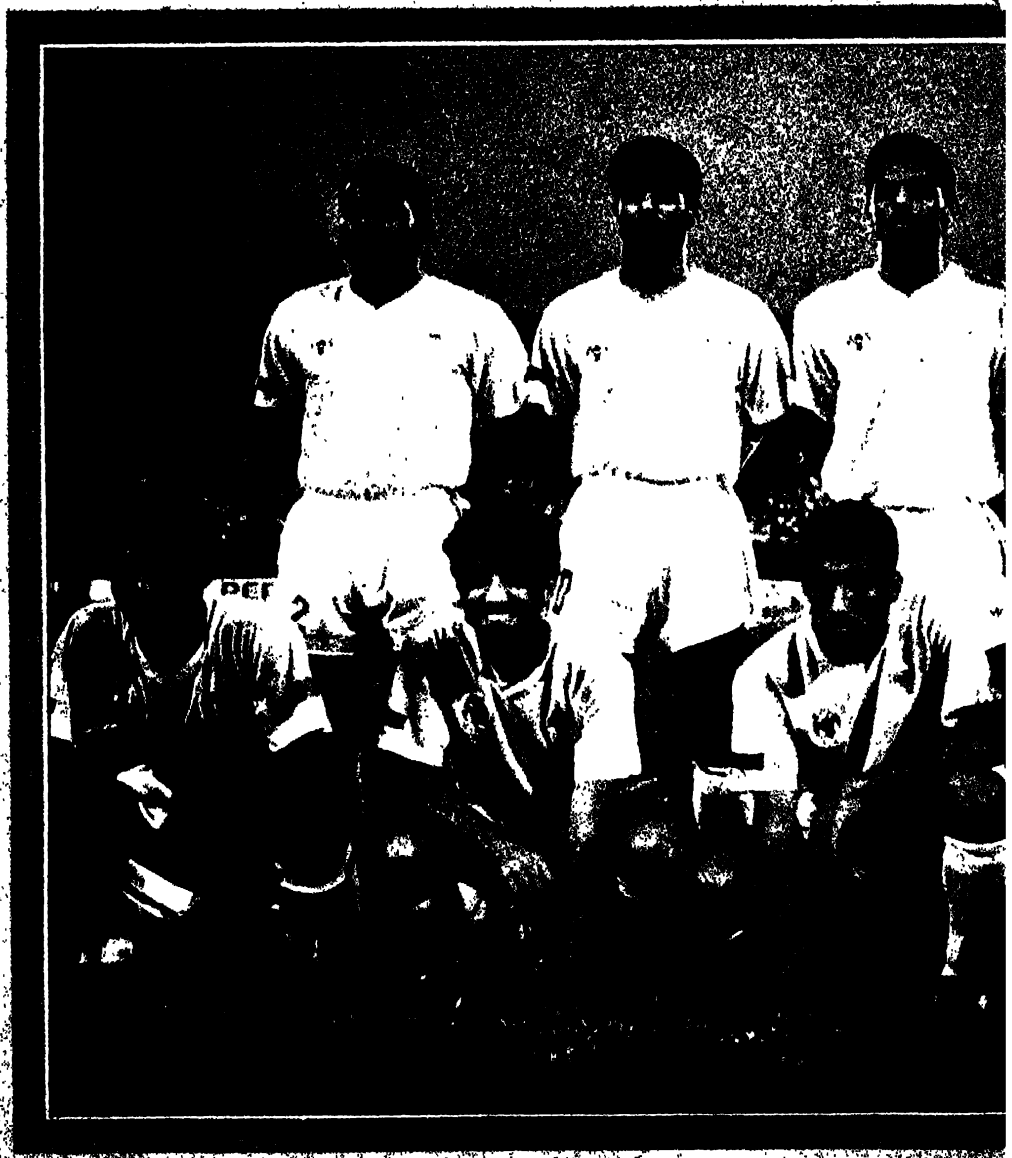
Fujairah; Umm al Qaiwain, and Ajman.

The oil boom of the Seventies not only transformed the economy. It also changed leisure habits and sports. Falconry, camel-racing and horse riding which were the

major spectator and participatory folk sport, were bulldozed to the fringes by the modern sport of soccer.

Organised soccer was quick to take roots by 1972, only a year after the UAE was formed. But it began to take off

only from 1977 onwards with the formation of the World Sports Academy in Saudi Arabia, started by Jimmy Hill of England in coordination with Prince Faisal bin Fahad bin Abdul Aziz, then the President of the



Ministry of Youth Welfare. From here, its influence spread to neighbouring states, the U.A.E. included.

Until recent years, most of the matches were played on sand and clay, in the barren desert and the coastal strip. Nearly always barefoot. But the coming of artificial grass was a miracle. An infrastructural network was laid in the flat coastal strip. The result today is a 50,000 capacity National

Manager: Bernard Blautt
Colours: White shirts, white shorts, white stockings
Opponents: Group D (Milan-Bologna). West Germany, Yugoslavia, Colombia
Previous World Cup Appearances: None

Stadium in Abu Dhabi. As well as a 14-team first division. Support from the Emire, ensures regular participation in the Gulf and other championships.

The U.A.E. and the Arab states of the Gulf region, and the peninsula, have some of the best modern stadia of the world, and

surprisingly, even some of the best grass pitches (natural grass having substituted artificial grass in 1985)

Onto soccer. Playing the game for fun and enjoyment in the past, meant that they revelled in ball control, nimbleness, pace and deceptive skills. The present squad is still weak on tactics, and on the use of 'body'.

Their strength is short passing and possession. But their weakness lies in long-balling out of defence, as well as in heading.

This is why former national manager, Mario Zagalo (now replaced by Peto, Bernard Blautt) though having miserably failed with the Saudis in the past, decided that the Brazilian style of play was best suited to the Emirates. So did Carlos Alberto Ferreira, his Brazilian predecessor.

The U.A.E.'s success in the final rounds of their group, was a result of a combination of courage and luck. When Saudi Arabia, the World Under-16, and Asian champions, and the redoubtable Koreans from the two Koreans, including the Chinese and the Qataris, competed, the Emirates stood no chance.

But in lushy Singapore, the giants fell. The Saudis played the best, apart from the South Koreans, and the Chinese were in with a chance. But the final results were pretty

shocking. U.A.E. finished second with six points (Played-3; won-0; drew-3; lost-0; for-5; against-1). South Korea topped expectedly with eight points. Qatar, China, Saudi Arabia and North Korea ended their long journey with 5, 4, 4, and 3 points respectively.

The unpretentious Emirates side played in a 1-4-3-3 formation. This will probably be the same in Italy, a few months from now.

Musabbeh will be at goal. Khalil Ghanem, Salim, Obaid, Ibrahim Mir will be manning the four-man defence. In front of them at midfield will be Ibrahim, Issa Mir and Ismail. Among the strikers, there are Al Talyani, Abdel Rahman Mohammed and ace striker and left winger in Fahd Khamis, who excelled in their final round qualification group. Mubarek Ghanem and Abdul Aziz Mohammed are two more strikers who could give the side its deceptive strength.

It has been a baptism of fire for this young side, whose average age like the Americans, is also 23 years. They along with the South Koreans have the blessings of all the Asians and other Third World countries. Facing them will be a "very, very strong" Yugoslavian side, West Germany and the tricky Colombians, a new force in South American soccer, in Group D.

Will petroleum soccer now be able to ignite the sporting hearts of world soccer? Good luck U.A.E.!

By Pallab Muhury



TENNIS INDEX



NUMBER of times that 1920s superstar Suzanne Lenglen and Elizabeth Ryan lost during their seven-year doubles partnership: 0.

PROS that Bev Warner, a 14-year courtesy car driver at the Australian Open, considers her most difficult customers: John McEnroe and Boris Becker.

PRO that Warner says is her favourite to drive: Steffi Graf.

NUMBER of more years Nikki Pilić, the West German Davis Cup captain, predicts that 22-year-old Boris Becker will play the pro tennis tour: 2.

HOW the Czech authorities ordered 1975 defector and long-time "non-person" Martina Navratilova be introduced at the start of the 1986 Federation Cup in Prague. As "the player from the United States."

NOBEL Peace Prize winner who sent world No. 4 Brad Gilbert a telegram to thank him for refusing a six-figure money guarantee to play in the South African Open as he had in previous years: Anti-apartheid campaigner Bishop Desmond Tutu.

PLACE that Steffi Graf would most like to visit: South Africa.

WHO John McEnroe once claimed that wide-body rackets are for: "People who can't play tennis."

WHAT 87-year-old Jean Borotra, the 1924 Wimbledon champion, said, during a 1984 international club match, was the only thing that worried him: "The feeling that I may die without having played enough tennis."

NUMBER of different partners that Jakob Hlasek has won his eight career Grand Prix doubles titles with: 7.

SPORT that world No. 5 Michael Chang considers more difficult than tennis: Fishing.

WHAT Natalia Zvereva's surname means in Russian: "Wild animal."

NUMBER of court cases Michael Chang has scheduled this year: 5.

NUMBER of companies that retired Chris Evert is a spokesperson for: 12.

Dare To Stair

WERE told you before, and we're telling you again: there's nothing to beat stair-climbing when it comes to burning calories. Energizers (where you pedal along to your dream body) and treadmills (where you're walking to health and fitness) are history. So are jogs and swims. If you're looking to lose weight and improve your cardiovascular endurance, you'd do better to give the elevator a miss.

For quite some time now, we at the Fitness Column, have been screaming about the perks of climbing stairs. Forget about the lifts, would. If you're desperate to weave a little fitness into your sedentary office life, head for the stairs every time you've got to change floors. And now we've got the gear to back us up.

Fitness researchers the world over have agreed that stair-climbing is the best way to give yourself a cardiovascular workout with the added benefit of really working the lower body through the entire leg. In fact, in the past 10 minutes, you can burn 100 calories, and you'll be in great shape. And if you're looking for a challenge, you can even do it on a stair-climbing machine.



One of the biggest complaints against stair-climbing was the shock transferred to the joints, especially the knees. Yeah, you know what we're talking about: the bone-jarring shudder that runs through your legs every time you attack the next step. Well, now you don't have to worry about your knees any more. The latest stair-climbing machines are specially designed to give a little with each step, thereby preventing the shockwave in the leg muscles without hurting the joints.

What's more, these machines are designed to be used by people of all ages and fitness levels. They're perfect for anyone who wants to get in shape without the hassle of a gym.

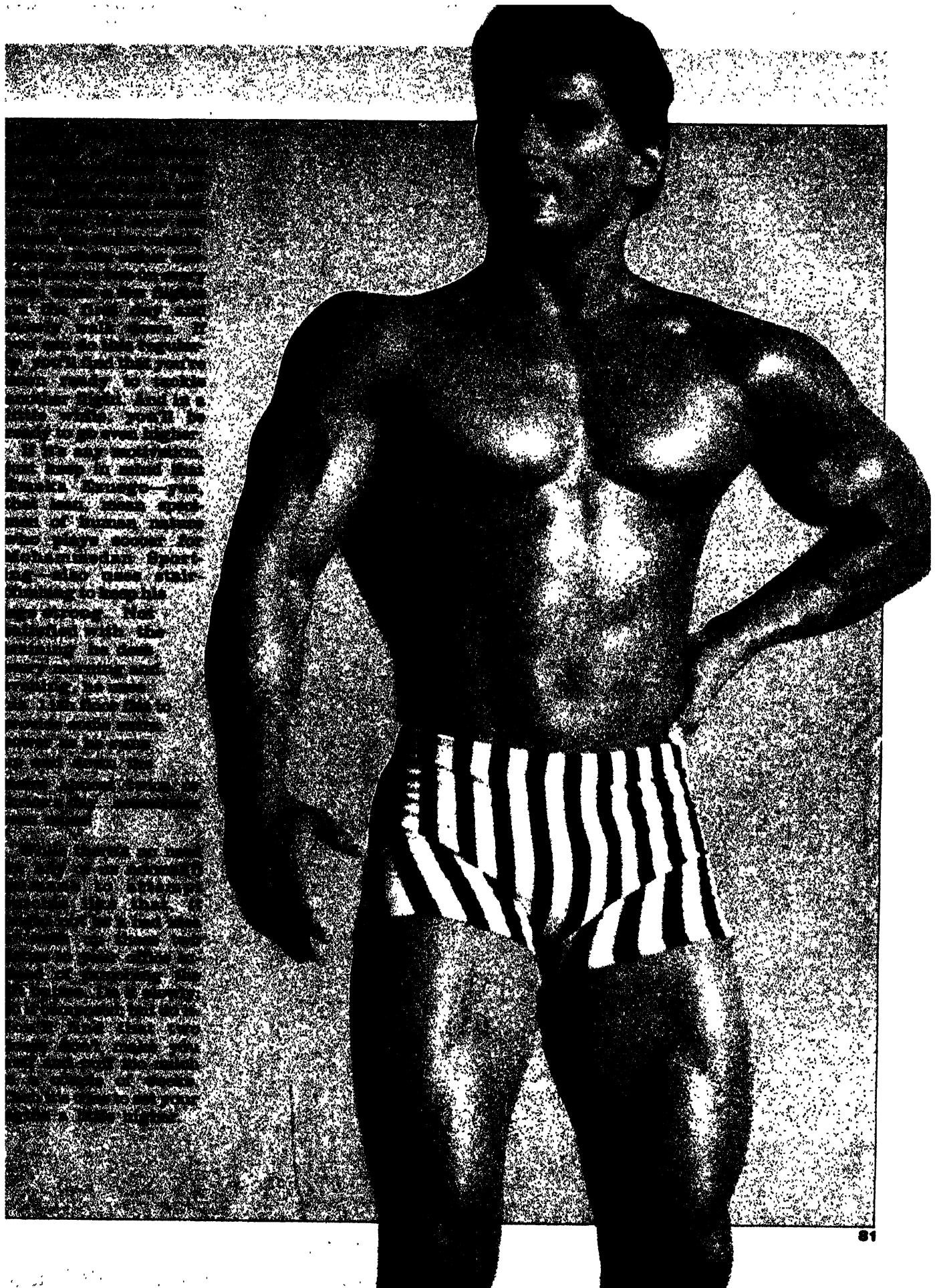
expended. You can even program the high-tech ones to change speeds and exercise intensity while you're climbing to your dream body.

As for the muscles brought into play, you'll climb off with well-blasted hips, thighs and calves. All these muscles combine when you climb stairs and if you concentrate the action on them, they're bound to reap the rewards and change for the better. Try it for

yourself the next time you get out on a walk. Concentrate on the action, tensing as you take a step higher, and you'll appreciate what a stair-climbing session will do to your lower body.

Okay, okay, we can already hear screams about those folks who don't have access to a stair-climbing machine. If you can't get your hands—should that read feet?—on one, you've got





Here we are in the Spring of 2000 A.D. What better time to review the 1990s, a momentous decade for cricket? In the distant days of 1990, who could have foreseen that, by now, South Africa would be the recognised world champions of cricket? Who would have predicted that Durham would be county champions, unbeaten for the last three years at home in their indoor stadium? Who would have foretold the appointment of Sir Ian Botham as president of MCC?

Few will now recall the controversy in the late 1980s concerning the appointment and sacking of successive England captains. What an inspired decision it was in 1993 to introduce a captaincy rota for each Test. Now, the captaincy changes hands every 20 minutes and every player has several turns during each Test. While this arrangement has not improved England's playing record, it has at least eliminated the controversy; and so far, only two players have resigned partway through their 20 minutes because of the pressures of the job.

Internationally, the return of South Africa to the Test match fold in 1997 with an all-black side was widely welcomed, as was their subsequent unbroken run of success. It was particularly regrettable, therefore, that their 1999 tour of England was so disrupted by the protests of the Stop the Tour movement, campaigning against the exclusion of white cricketers from the touring party.

freewheeling

Attempts at international levels to curb fast, short-pitched bowling have been largely unsuccessful. The introduction of a maximum run-up of 10 paces for bowlers was particularly ill-conceived. Controversy over this measure reached spectacular new heights in 1996 when Australian opener Kel Pratt walked off the field in protest at West Indian 7ft triple-jump champion Hilton Wilton who, kicking off from the Sydney sightscreen, reached the crease after just nine giant strides and bowled at lightning

speed. The hypocrisy of Pratt's protest was plain to all when Australia unveiled their new fast-bowling prodigy, Merv Flinger, the long-armed human windmill, who bowled from a stationary position at the crease and achieved incredible speed. This particular controversy, unlike Merv, is likely to run and run.

Broadcasting of top matches took on a totally new dimension during the 1990s, with players having portable miniature cameras and microphones attached to their persons. The

armchair spectator can, at the press of a remote-control button, tune in to the camera and microphone of his choice. Ex-players and other commentators are relegated to the role of providing instant translations of some of the more obscure or colourful outbursts coming over the microphones.

Sponsorship has continued to generate income for the game and its players, who now carry large advertising slogans on their clothing and equipment. Battery-powered neon signs on pads, particularly effective in poor light, were banned in 1997 after a sharp shower of rain and a faulty connection almost had fatal results for England opener Geoff Stonewall. A firm line was also taken when beefy allrounder Billy Bult appeared in a Lord's Test wearing a large orange 'box' outside his flannels, advertising a noxious antipodean lager and bearing its well-known slogan 'Mine's a large one'. Finally, though much has changed in the world of cricket in the last 10 years, little has changed outside the game. Britain still has an indomitable, outspoken female Prime Minister. She dominates the scene, dwarfing colleagues, opponents and husband alike. Controversial, opinionated, uncompromising, she shows few signs of relinquishing power. Like her or not, she is certain to be with us for years to come. So let us salute Frances Edmonds, Britain's second woman Prime Minister.

Terry Wright

Sir Ian Terence Botham—President of MCC?





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have in common
with appliances?

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Golden moments. McDowell moments

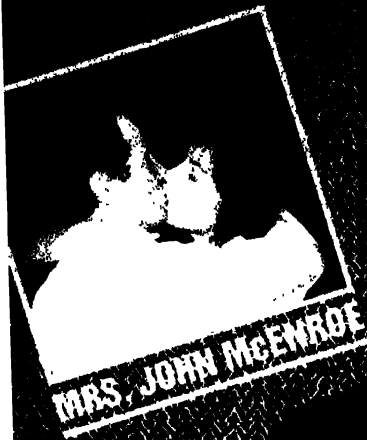


Make mine
McDowell's
The soda with spirit

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INTERVIEW



Five wickets in
an innings
more three times
in the last 47 Tests.

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in his last 15 Tests.

S KAPIL DEV

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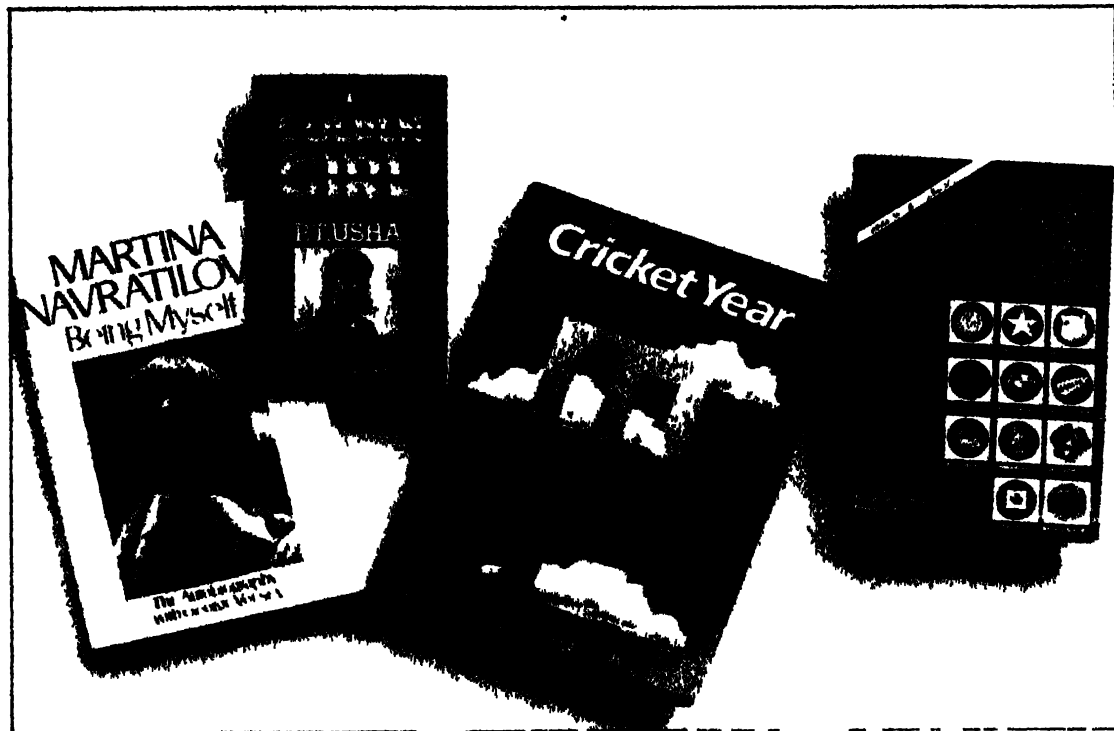


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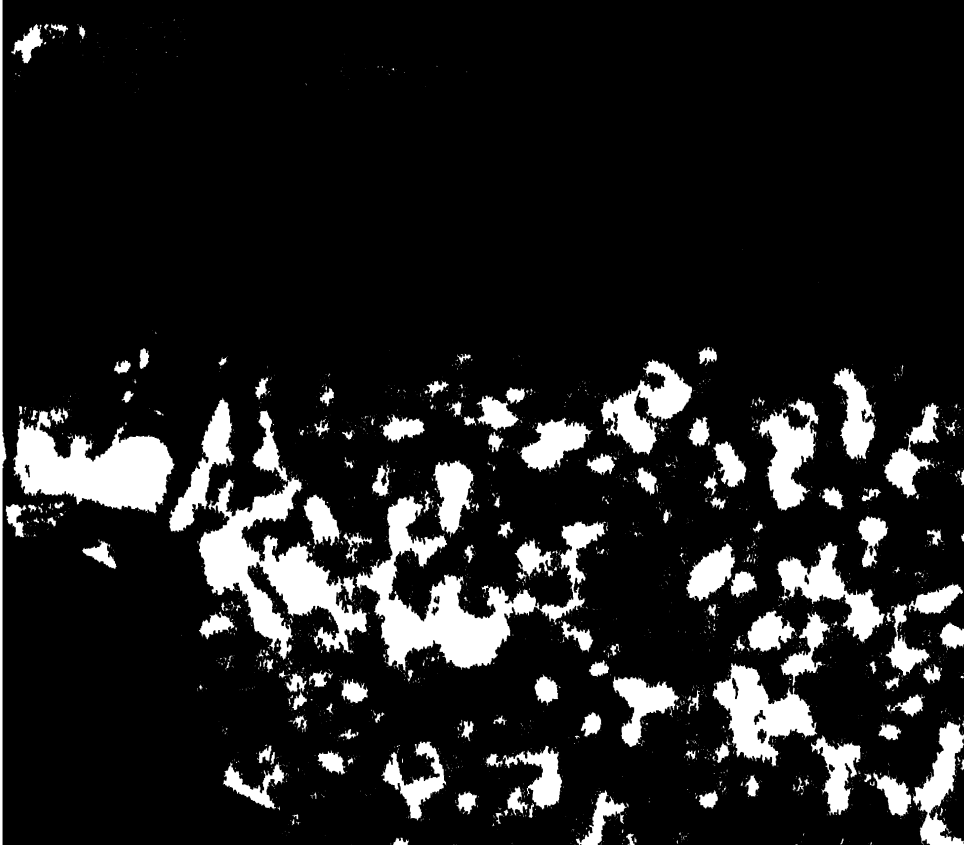
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6 If you manage to chart up the career of Kapil Dev, you will be proud that he is an Indian. But time is the great leveller and the Haryana all rounder's capabilities are under question. As is his dedication. But is Kapil really losing that edge? Is he playing in the Indian team just for the sake of it? The cricket followers of the country are worried. So was Munder Patherya as he airbrushed to Dhaka for a 'tete-a-tete' with Kapa.

20 Sukroto Pal's testing positive for steroids at the recently concluded Commonwealth Games has earned him a two-year ban. Now, the man is alone, discarded by the people who made him what he was as they refuse to share the blame. Pal, in turn, can't accuse them for fear of further reprisal. Those strong shoulders now hang limply. The man is broken...that's how Shervin Sebastian found him.

to the night the FA Cup fever is on. The English League teams have settled it out and the places for the final that have been decided. Liverpool is there as usual. Their march to the final has become almost part of a ritual. The stars are there and so is Bruce Grobbelaar the old war horse. He serves Liverpool under the bar and does so with gusto and a sense of clownishness. But not once does he waver. The picture is a case in point.



44 When a couple who resemble each other in more ways than one, team up, things can get real interesting! Especially when you're talking about John McEnroe and Tatum O'Neal. Fed up with following the tennis circuit around the world, Tatum is going back to Hollywood...and to films. She, however, manages to give us a peek into the life of the McEnroes. Wanna take a look?

78 She's thirteen and already a millionaire. Life for her has just begun, it seems. It is now a fight with the computer, and her rivals. It is now a tale of endorsements, prize money, handling press conferences and critics. It is a story of how to handle victory and defeat. The script has been written and the show is about to begin. Please welcome Jennifer Capriati, tennis' teenage sensation.

9/1/91
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Sports world

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

"I AM NOT FINISHED"

In a frank interview to
Mudar Patherya, Kapil Dev analyses
his current form...or rather,
the loss of it



SPORTSWORLD : Everyone is saying that you are finished.

KAPIL DEV : My career can't be at a high all the time. There are ups and there are downs, and then ups again. Even the great Bradman, Greg Chappell, Gary Sobers and our own Gavaskar went through depressions in form. The most important thing is how fast one emerges from it. The one thing that I will say in my defence is that there have been so many changes in the Indian team over the last 2-3 years that one doesn't know whether one is coming or going. This has affected my performance; it has also affected the side's planning. If you check, between 1982 and 1987 Indian cricket did quite well because there used to be one or two changes in the side at the most with the rest of the players constant. A player must know where he stands; now with

Prabhakar and Wasekar I know where I stand. I am much relieved. As time goes on I might re-emerge as the strike bowler instead of being asked to merely keep the runs down, or being asked to bowl 40-50 overs in 15-over spells.

So you do accept that you are going through a depression at the moment. I wouldn't say that it is a total depression. I will point to the fact that the changes in the side never really reflected my contribution. If the team was not strong enough to bowl another side out twice, people said I performed badly. On the other hand, if we had won my performance would have also improved. If we have a winning combination then usually the captain allows me to play my natural game rather than asking me to restrict it. So my performance should be seen within a team context.



How can you say that a constant side improves your performance? If your team is good enough to bowl the opponents out twice in a match, you know your strengths and weaknesses. So basically, it comes to a point where the team's performances affect your own performance. For example, in the last three years I have been juggled around in the batting order between numbers five and eight. It's a different ball game at the two positions. Besides I have also been asked to do the donkey work when it has come to bowling. At my age I would be more successful if used in 5-6 over bursts. In Pakistan, for example, I was bowling from morning to evening. Naturally, I became defensive; I couldn't go all out, I had to hold something back; I had to last the whole day, I couldn't afford to break down. Somewhere along the line I was forced to sacrifice my wicket-taking ability for sheer economy. But now with Prabhakar and Wasson around, watch out in the next series!

Australia's Mark Taylor despatches Kapil with ease during the just concluded triangular series in New Zealand. Is Kapil losing the edge?

I have been asked to do the donkey work when it has come to bowling. At my age I would be more successful if used in 5-6 over bursts

You had Prabhakar and Wasson in New Zealand. Why didn't you do well there? Wasson was still new there. Besides, one Test was washed out and we bowled only one innings in the other Test. But coming back to the earlier subject, I would want to be used more for shock effect than stock value. I only need a little more careful use. Earlier on, if there was any problem in the field the captain would throw the ball to me. I couldn't experiment as there wouldn't be too many runs to play around with. More often than not, I would be asked to keep the runs down so that India stayed in the game. But as I say, things are changing now with two other bowlers who can also attack.

You mean you shouldn't have been used for extended periods as you were in Pakistan?

When you are used for extended periods, your enthusiasm begins to waver midway, because it is a difficult thing being entrusted the job of controlling the runs and bowling all day. Not breaking down becomes important.

I'll grant you one thing—you are more economical than the other Indian bowlers. You give fewer runs than all of them, but at the same time take fewer wickets.

That's just it. Each time I go in to bowl I have to tell myself 'I don't want to give runs, I don't want to give runs, I don't want to give runs'. Had we got Prabhakar and Hirwani earlier, we could have planned our strategy, we could have come in for 5-6 overs like the West Indians do, picked up a wicket and then taken a break.

You feel that your effectiveness is linked to the Indian batting? If we score 500-odd then you can afford to be a bit more attacking? If we are bowled out for 100 I can't be expected to go in and fire bouncers and yorkers. That's why I say that the better our team, the better I will be able to perform individually. At least it works that way with me.

I remember you saying that Prabhakar had given you a second lease of life. For quite some time I was the only

The one thing that I will say in my defence is that there have been so many changes in the Indian team over the last 2-3 years that one doesn't know whether one is coming or going

one carrying the burden of the attack. Now the scenario is changing as the captain knows that he can turn to Prabhakar even in limited-overs matches. And with Wasson coming in, we seamers have a shared responsibility amongst ourselves.

But do you accept that your performances in the last few years have not been effective. Definitely. The figures show it. But here again, I think I didn't get the runs, whereas the number of wickets were more or less okay. If you are surprised with this remark, I would like you to check the number of times I have bowled only once in a Test because the other side has not batted a second time. So the wickets per Test ratio is not an accurate reflection in my case.

But wouldn't you agree that you ought to have taken many more wickets? Here again, you can't expect me to walk out and get five wickets in each innings plus a hundred.

Yes, but when we look up the papers and find that Hadlee has taken five wickets in an innings yet again, you can't blame us if we start wondering why you can't do the same. Hadlee is a different kind of bowler, bowling in different





**Actions speak louder than words,
Kapil Dev checks out the
Press Box during the New Zealand
tour**

Are you aware that this special ability you once possessed has gone? I notice this only in my batting. I have been scoring few runs for the last couple of series. Amusingly, when West Indies came to India in 1987, I got quite a few runs but few wickets. On other occasions, I have picked up more wickets than scored runs. I haven't quite worked this out.

Are you aware that the general 'janata' is expecting much from you? This doesn't quite matter because most of the time I am setting high standards for myself. For example, I am trying to reach the 400 mark as soon as possible. Maybe once I get there we will look at the 450 mark and once there, we will try and get to 500. I am getting more involved.

PRADEEP MANDHAN

conditions and for a different team. While I don't compare myself with the other bowlers the way the public does, I definitely motivate myself and say 'Come on'.

Do you think the luck factor has also been at work? For example, at Sialkot you beat the bat time and again but couldn't pick up the wickets... I can't do a thing about that. At Sialkot, for example, we should have bowled Pakistan out twice. I was enjoying myself and bowling well but couldn't pick up the wickets. In New Zealand I will concede that I didn't do too well but eventually things were coming together. Don't forget, we went to New Zealand expecting green tops but encountered batting strips.

Everyone seems to be asking where your matchwinning ability has gone. There used to be a time when you could walk in, hit a quick 75, then pick up three wickets and before one knew what had happened, the match had changed course. It happens like that (silence).

Will talented youngsters like Manoj Prabhakar and Sachin Tendulkar take the pressure off him?



Involved? What do you mean? I have come to a stage of my career when it is cricket and only cricket. If five years back I had a late night, I would say 'So what?' But now I have changed. For one thing, my body has changed and I have adjusted. Nowadays I get into my room by 10 pm during a Test. Take another example—earlier I would wear trendy dancing shoes irrespective of whether the shoes pinched or not. Nowadays, irrespective of whether they look good or not, I wear sandals which are good enough to relax my feet for the next day's bowling. This single-minded dedication has come after quite a few years.

Romi, your wife, was once telling me that you have even cut red meat out of your diet these days. It is only fish and vegetables that I eat these days. I have become fitter as a bowler now than ever before. I can bowl for longer stretches without tiring. Sometimes I wonder how I used to be exhausted at 25 but not six years later. I suppose it is because of discipline.

I remember one of your quotes that if you didn't play for 2-3 days your body started aching. I haven't given that much rest to my body these days to find out whether that still happens or not. But I will confess that I don't eat or sleep well if I let the body idle over a period of time. This doesn't mean I train 365 days a year. If I can't exercise, then half-an-hour of squash is good enough, or even a jog. Anything to keep the body active. As long as I can sweat it out, I sleep and eat well.

Considering that you haven't been doing too well of late, are you intending to take a break from the game? I would feel miserable if I did.

Maybe it could improve your performance. It depends on a lot of ifs and buts. Besides, we get a lot of rest between matches on tour, or even between two series. Cricket is more a mental sport than a

physical one. In football or hockey the physical component is much more. I find, in cricket, the psychological input is predominant. In addition to skill you also need to have a certain match temperament.

What sort of match temperament? We have a lot of batsmen who get centuries in the Ranji Trophy but struggle to get the crucial 20 in Tests or limited-overs matches. It is not that they don't have talent, but it is that their legs turn to jelly when they find the bowler

running in to bowl. Even my temperament and attitudes have changed over the years.

In what way? Cricket has become my everything. There was a time when I wanted to set up a successful business. The priorities have changed. Today it is cricket at the top and cricket at the bottom.

The fast guys...(from left) Razdan, Prabhakar, Kapil and Wasson now share the new ball burden.



I still maintain that my batting has tightened up. I would rather put my head down and pick up runs rather than go bang-bang

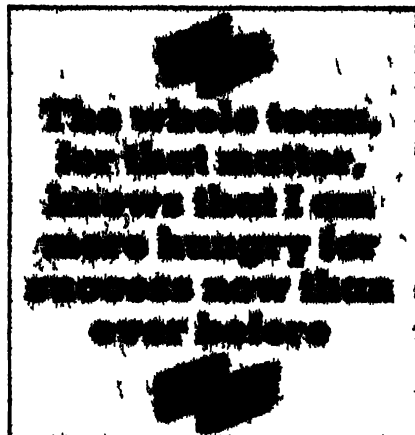
Is it because your wife has successfully established Dev Features, the syndication agency?

Definitely, because had she not been working she would have been at the back of my mind all the time, making me feel guilty that I was not devoting enough time to her. Now it is a question of whether she has enough time for me (laughs). She is a busy person and that relieves me. A lot of people think that Dev Features has affected my performance. They might be surprised that I hardly know what is going on in the company in the first place! Romi and Lokesh (my friend) have kept me out of the day to day running of the organisation. In fact, they have come to me for help only in rare cases. Otherwise they

have specifically asked me to concentrate on the game. The success of Dev Features has relieved me. The better the company has done, the more serious I have become as a cricketer. Sounds funny.

I suppose it shows in your fitness. I remember you once telling me that you never got the credit for it. You have never missed a Test because of a muscle pull. That's incredible for a fast bowler who has played more than 100 Tests.

I am not consciously fishing for the credit as such. I will however admit that to play 100 Tests without a break (well, almost) for a fast bowler is incredible. But it would be too much to expect the public to appreciate this point because public sensibilities are limited only to the field of performance. It would be too



much to expect them to look beyond and rationalise. Maybe I wouldn't do that myself, if McEnroe is not doing well. I would never wonder how his personal life is faring at that time and how that might be affecting his performance. So I wouldn't blame the public for not giving me the credit for my fitness. Besides, I would rather satisfy my conscience than satisfy the public.

Is your conscience satisfied? Considering that no Indian fast bowler had taken 100 Test wickets, yes! No Indian fast bowler has played as many Tests or for as long. So taking a long-term view, I am satisfied.



Behind every successful man there's a woman...Romil Dev looks after Dev Features

Taking a short term view, I am not. In fact, if it ever comes to the stage when I do get satisfied I will quit. The whole team, for that matter, knows that I am more hungry for success now than ever before.

Why now?

Because I am close to 400 Test wickets. I will not proclaim that I want to go for the 500 mark now, but eventually it is inevitable. So it is not my taking wickets in a few matches that is important, but that I can maintain my fitness to last out.

How do you adjust to failure at 31? Any different from the way you reacted to failure at 20?

At 20, I was not expected to score many runs, so when I did hit a big score once every five innings the public went overboard. Now the public is disappointed if I fail in any innings. But perhaps I have matured. In 1982-83 I got out in the 80s and 90s on quite a few occasions. That wouldn't happen today. Take the 46 in the limited-overs match against New Zealand for example, five years ago I would have gone berserk much earlier. Irrespective of what the public tends to think, there is

more responsibility at work now. I try and stick it out for the whole of 50 overs.

You say that you have become more responsible whereas the general feeling is that you are a scorer of brilliant 25s.

I still maintain that my batting has tightened up. I would rather put my head down and pick up runs rather than go bang-bang.

This is surprising because the public image of Kapil Dev is that of a carefree batsman who cannot change his approach, irrespective of whether it is 400/4 or 100/8.

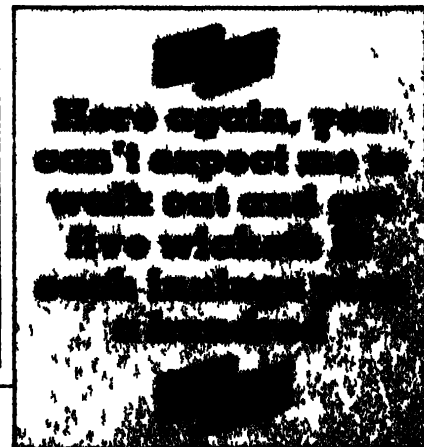
It is only the public image. I could afford to be carefree earlier because after me there was Shastri, Kirmani, Madan and Binny. I have had to change in the last couple of years because I don't know the depth of the batting. So even though the public may not have noticed it, a little caution has come in. Of course, the old Kapil Dev sometimes comes back but I remind myself that the runs are of more importance.

When the Kapil of old comes back and you get out, how do you react?

At Christchurch I got out lbw playing across the line. I would have cursed and passed it off when I was young. This time I vowed never to flick again before I got to 30.

The Kapil Dev of which series do you long to be again?

Against the West Indies in 1982 and 1983-84. Even the Kapil Dev who picked up nearly 25 wickets in Pakistan in 1982-83. But again, don't forget that we used to have a near-constant side those days.





Is Bishen Bedi correct in his observation that Kapil's bowling hand isn't coming round and over the head anymore?

Bishen, in New Zealand, said that your arm wasn't coming round and over the head. Have you noticed any other technical failings?

When one is not doing well, a lot of theories can be devised. Perhaps Bishen was right but I couldn't change my approach in the middle of the Test. Maybe one of these days I will look into it. The important thing is the rhythm. Which is as good as ever. It's only a matter of time before I can sort things out again. Otherwise I would have retired. I

It's only a matter of time before I can sort things out again. Otherwise I would have retired. I accept I am not doing too well. But this phase cannot last for long. After all, I am not finished.

accept I am not doing too well. But this phase cannot last for long. After all, I am not finished. There is a long way to go.

Have you contemplated concentrating more on your batting, like Imran? I am predominantly a bowler and have much left to contribute as one. Without bowling I won't be able to get anywhere. I'd like to be like Hadlee who is going strong even at 38. That guy is something. He has got such a straight arm. Besides he bowls so close to the stumps that he is bound to pick up wickets. Hopefully I should be doing the same till I am 38 as well.

dear Kapil,

W AS it all a dream?

Remember the time you Ahmed? Don't you tell us that no memory spanning partnership had been reached against India and Kapil? Remember when India was 100% in the hands of the bowlers?

against Pakistan in 1979-80 and how you hit 88 in 79 balls as India revived to eventually win the Test? Remember how you scored 84 (88 balls) in Madras in that series and added to it 11 wickets as India won by 10 wickets? Remember how, with a pulled thigh muscle, you bowled

Australia out for 88 in that unforgettable Melbourne Test victory in 1980-81, taking 5/88 in the process? Remember when you hit 41 and an unforgettable 88 (88 balls) at Lord's in 1982 besides picking up 8 wickets? Remember your 87 in 88 balls at The Oval? Remember

your 175 not out against Zimbabwe in the Prudential Cup 1983? Your 8/88 against West Indies at Ahmedabad later that year?

Chief, if only we could rewind destiny's button. If only the Kapil of '88 vintage could walk in, hit a 70 in 40 balls, pick



3

2

10

1

1

dress and jewelry

12

penultimate ball of the match.
Chief, can we have the
and Kapil Dev back
please. And fast. The pin
is out of the grenade.
This is running out.
Regards.

Mudar Patherya

STATISTICS



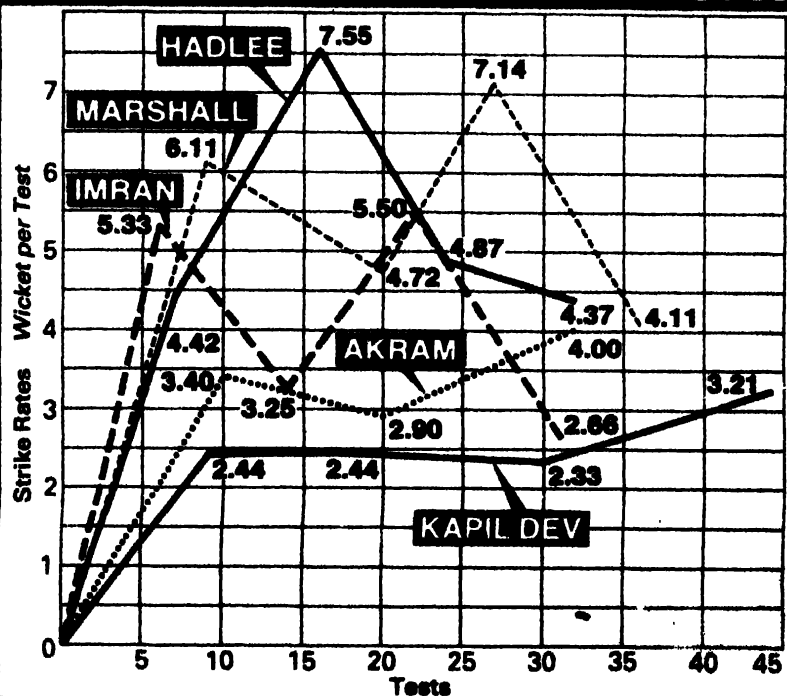
'MY CAREER CAN'T BE AT A HIGH ALL THE TIME'

STRIKE-RATES OF LEADING ALL ROUNDERS SINCE 1984-85

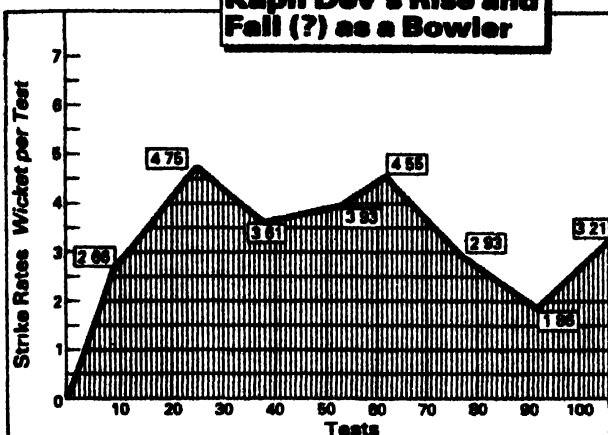
	Test	Runs
IMRAN		
6		
8		
8		
9		
31		
MARSHALL		
9		
11		
7		
9		
36		
HADLEE		
7		
9		
8		
8		
32		
AKRAM		
10		
10		
12		
32		
KAPIL DEV		
9		
9		
12		
14		
44		

Is how Kapil Dev reacts to the statistical evidence of his decline

Strike Rates of All Rounders Since 1984-85



Kapil Dev's Rise and Fall (?) as a Bowler



ACHIEVEMENTS

- ★ Kapil Dev holds the record of claiming 100 wickets in a record time of one year 105 days
- ★ He is the youngest bowler to take 100 as well as 200 Test wickets
- ★ He has to his credit the quickest double of 1000 runs/100 wickets
- ★ He is the youngest player to score 1000 runs and also the youngest to complete the double-double of 2000 runs and 200 wickets
- ★ He is also the youngest Indian batsman to score a century (126 not out against West Indies in Delhi in 1978-79) at the age of 20 years and 21 days



RECENT FAILINGS

- ★ He has scored only one fifty (in Pakistan in November 1989) in the last 15 Tests (21 innings) since scoring a century against West Indies in Madras in January 1988
- ★ In the last 47 Tests since November 1983, only thrice has Kapil taken five or more wickets in an innings (once in Australia in Dec 1985 and twice in West Indies in April 1989).

RASH BEHARI DAS



		T	Runs	Avg	Wkts	Avg	Strike Rate
v Pak	1978-79	3	159	31.80	7	60.86	2.99
v WI	1978-79	6	329	54.83	17	33.00	
v Eng	1979	4	45	7.50	16	30.87	
v Aus	1979-80	6	212	35.33	28	22.35	4.75
v Pak	1979-80	6	278	39.63	32	17.68	
v Eng	1979-80	1	45	45.00	3	28.33	
v Aus	1980-81	3	55	9.16	14	23.78	3.91
v NZ	1980-81	3	27	5.40	8	31.87	
v Eng	1981-82	6	318	53.00	22	37.95	
v Eng	1982	3	292	73.00	10	43.90	
v SL	1982-83	3	61	30.59	8	25.87	
v Pak	1982-83	6	178	22.25	24	34.62	3.93
v WI	1982-83	5	254	42.33	17	24.94	
v Pak	1983-84	3	46	11.50	12	18.75	4.55
v WI	1983-84	6	184	16.72	25	18.51	
v Pak	1984-85	2	82	26.00	1	126.00	
v Eng	1984-85	4	253	42.18	10	43.60	
v SL	1985-86	3	128	21.33	11	33.90	2.93
v Aus	1985-86	3	135	45.00	12	23.00	
v Eng	1986	3	61	20.25	10	30.60	
v Aus	1986-87	3	120	60.00	0	—	
v SL	1986-87	3	234	117.00	5	31.80	1.88
v Pak	1986-87	5	182	36.40	11	39.07	
v WI	1987-88	4	221	31.57	8	38.62	
v NZ	1988-89	3	107	29.78	10	23.20	
v WI	1988-89	4	91	15.18	18	21.50	3.21
v Pak	1989-90	4	185	29.50	12	31.50	
v NZ	1989-90	3	55	13.75	5	61.00	
		106	4301	30.58	384	29.54	

Note. 1) updated to the end of NZ-India series 1990
2) the fastest double was achieved in the 1979-80 Pakistan series

TRIANGULAR SERIES: NEW ZEALAND

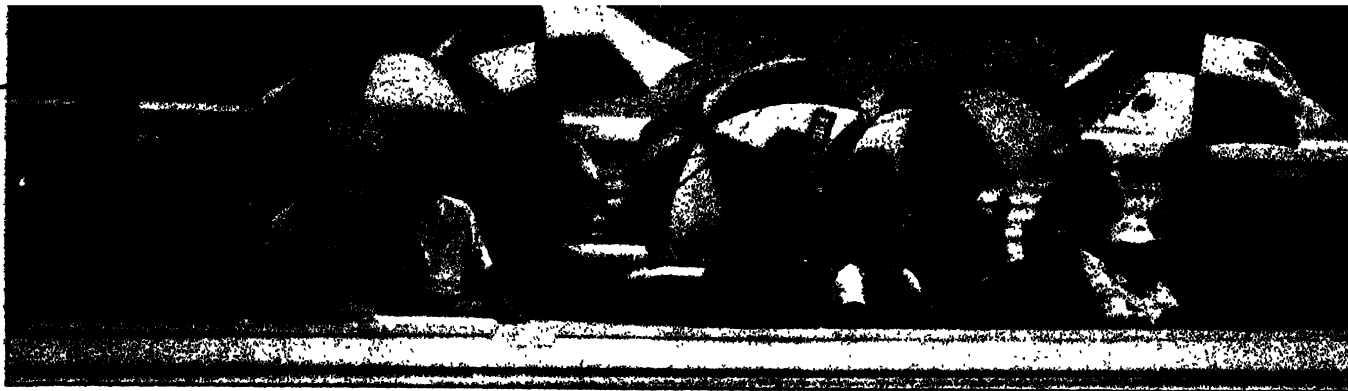
Photographs: Pradeep Mandhani

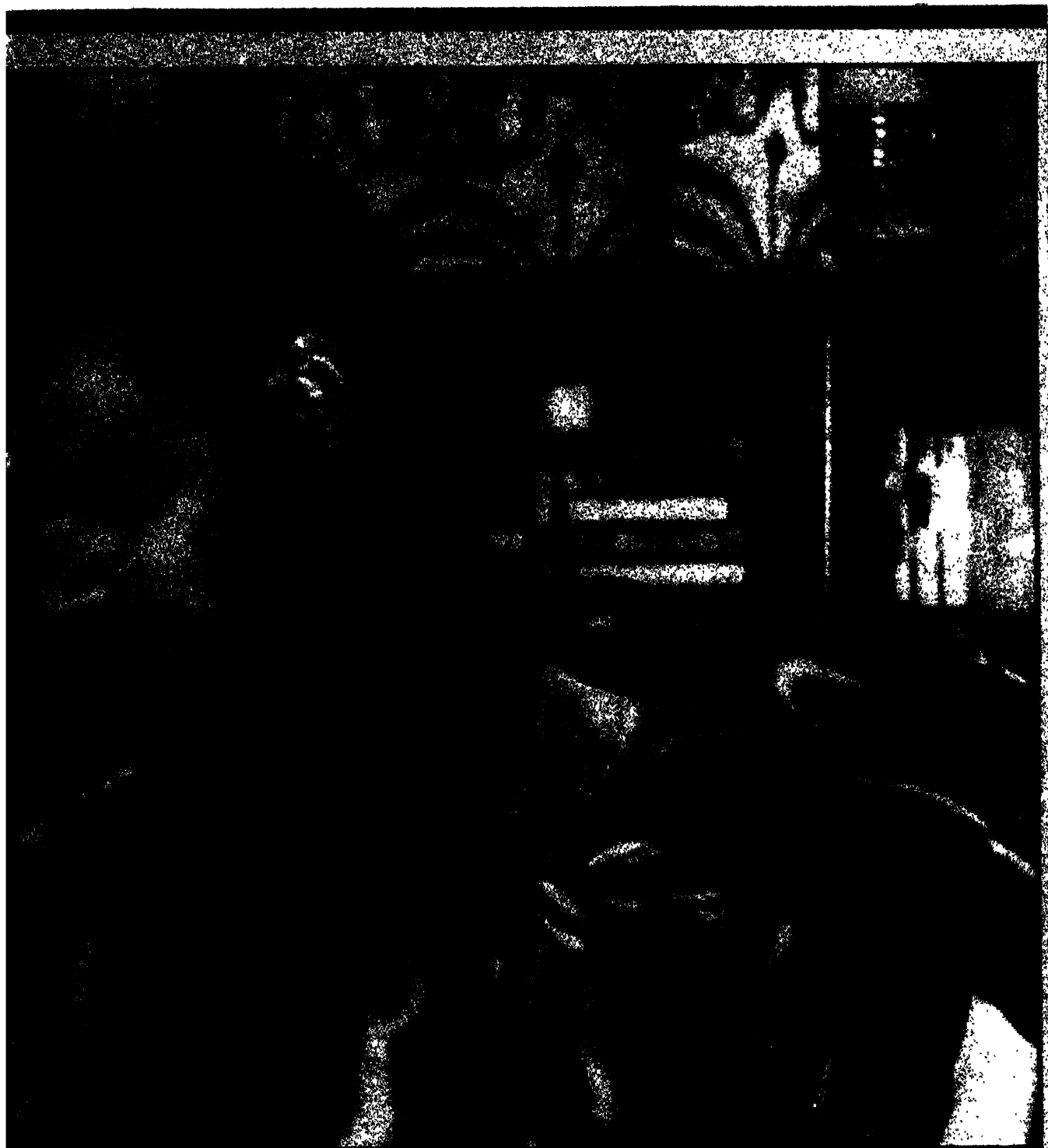
SUNSHINE CRICKET

(Clockwise from right) A scintillating Martin Crowe performs with his delectable technique; the frenzied passions of the victorious Australians rock the stands as their moment of glory arrives; the namesaker that Dilip Vengsarkar sports looks more like an apology than a greeting...

Facing page: Clockwise from top: Colour explodes in the stands as spectators bask in the warmth of a bright sun and some truly exciting cricket on the field; Evergreen Richard Hadlee, in a moment of rare acrobatics, brings about a spectacular end to Dean Jones' innings; Beer cans provide the hotline to cricket's intoxicating frontiers; Terry Alderman and Merv Hughes hug each other rejoicing their hard-fought win





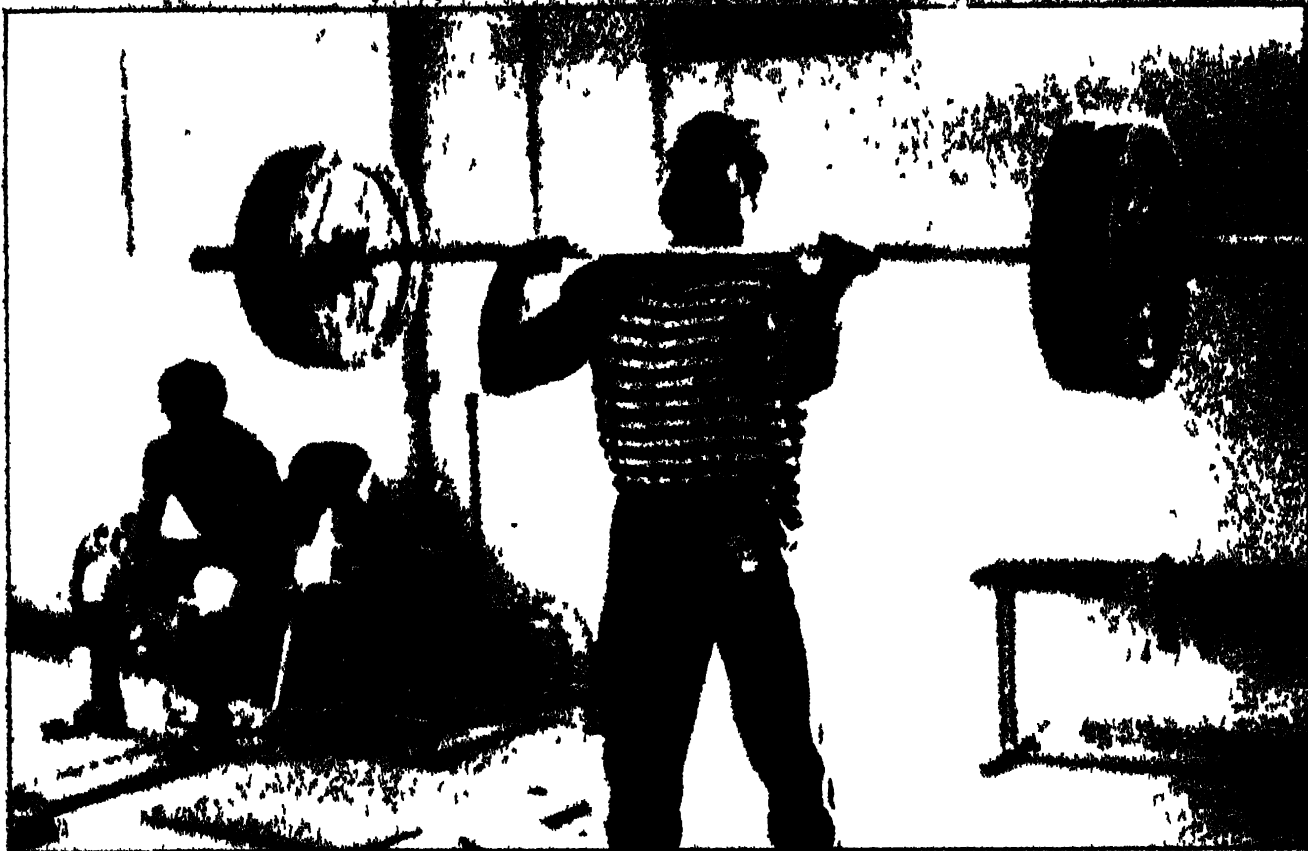


There has to be a stipend in the country. Otherwise, nothing will happen. And I don't want to speak because nobody came to speak to me when I won medals for the country. Also in the SAF Games. I am bitter about that. Not a single newspaper published a photograph of me before. So why should I cooperate?

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Subrata Pal cannot speak because the Federation people are tightening the noose around his neck. They have said that he will have to pay the expenses to and from Auckland and that is quite a large sum of money for a middle class boy from Kanchrapara. The underlying message: if he does not speak, then they might consider whether he should actually pay or not.

Dilip fiddles with the camera and on seeing that, Subrata says: 'No, I don't want you to take any photographs.'

Dilip replies in a soft voice: 'Come on. Take it easy. There is no harm.'

'No, no! I don't want photographs to be taken. I am staying away from everyone. Now even my friends say they want to take photographs with me. (A cynical look on his face. It is left unsaid but most probably they would want to sell it.) I am not going out any more. I have not even attended weddings. Yesterday a close friend of mine got married and I didn't go

At the training camp before the Commonwealth Games

because I didn't want any photographs to be taken.'

He looks away, the eyes downcast, his right fingers on his forehead when amazingly, the camera flashes. There is a deathly silence now. Oh my God, what has Dilip done? In fear, I blabber: 'It's a check for the flash.' Subrata looks up absolutely outraged. His body is shivering with rage. There is immense tension within him. Our heartbeats flap like frightened sparrows against our rib cage. Then he says, in ferocious but low-voiced venom: 'I told you not to take my picture!'

Dilip replies calmly but Subrata Pal cannot hear nor understand. He is about to spring up when.... a frail nervous voice from behind the curtain says, 'Subrata, take the tea!'

Subrata deflates, the anger going out of him. He gets up and goes to get the tea. We were saved in the nick of time. Dilip lights a cigarette. His hands tremble a

little. It needed some courage to do that. But have we done the right thing?

Subrata comes back with the tea and the biscuits and a certain camaraderie which was there was lost. He feels violated. He feels outraged and we have apparently lived up to his poor image of the press. And yet, we again urge him to speak, but now he refuses without any hint of civility. The word has become a brutal weapon in his mouth. We have the tea and the biscuits. We grope for time. We are tired from the journey. Suddenly he joins his hands in a namaste but the meaning is different: 'For heaven's sake, leave me alone. Please leave me alone. You can write what you want. Just leave me alone. I am tired. I cannot sleep. Please leave me alone.'

And so, we leave him, a trifle sad for him, despite his anger, because he lives in his house which is a sort of prison for him. A man violently urged to go out.

Subrata Pal, the footballer from Kanchrapara.

Where's Indian Sport Headed?

W

WHAT on earth are we doing with our sport? First we deny the entire track and field team some much-needed exposure by cancelling their participation in the Commonwealth Games just because one superstar thought it wasn't worth her while to go to Auckland. Then we cut the hockey team loose without a rudder by sacking coach M P Ganesh immediately after the Lahore World Cup. And now we're talking about holding the National Games in October just after the Beijing Asian Games!

No one expected P T Usha's withdrawal from the Commonwealth Games to lead to the eventual cancellation of the trip. Agreed, she is our main medal chance, but this is like saying India won't be participating in international meets once the talented Usha hangs up her spikes. No Usha, no Indian athletics? Now that's pushing it a bit too far.

As for the hockey, considering we had entrusted M P Ganesh with the job till the Beijing Asian Games, it seems a little pointless to dispense with him now, with just six months to go for the Asiad. Agreed, again, that he wasn't exactly the most fruitful of coaching stunts, considering we still hit double figures at the Lahore World Cup. But to throw away everything we've worked at since the Seoul Asian Games and leave Indian hockey in a free-for-all state? Sticking with Ganesh might just have been the lesser evil.

But the one that takes the cake is hosting the National Games after the Asian Games. Awarded to Punjab last year, the 28th edition of the National Games has been deferred twice already, thanks to the political unrest that has enveloped the State. Now, facing an end-March deadline from the IOA, Punjab will have to decide whether they can host the Games at all. If not, the alternatives being touted are Kerala or the twin-cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

According to Sqd Ldr Sinha of the IOA, Kerala have supported their claim by saying that they have a ready infrastructure, having hosted the National Games in 1987. About the Hyderabad-Secunderabad claim, Sinha says that 1990 being the 400th anniversary of their athletic association, they are banking on sentimental factors to sway the decision in their favour. This is, of course, surmising that Punjab formally announce their inability to host the Games.

But all this is secondary when you consider the farce the National Games itself has been reduced to. Would you condemn me if I assume that the purpose of a all-encompassing meet like the National Games is to select the Indian squad for international meets like the Asian Games? And yet it seems most likely that we will be holding our National Games after the Asian Games!

When asked about this, Sqd Ldr Sinha did agree in principle but attempted to pass it off by saying that individual selection trials are being held for each discipline. All very fine. But when you do have a meet like the National Games going abegging (that's what it is reduced to now), wouldn't it make more sense to use the National Games as the selection yardstick?

Or is that asking for too much?

Pradip Paul

HOW WILL INDIA DO AT T

THE role of forecasts in sport is becoming increasingly important. Connected, first of all, with the situation when elite sportsmen are being prepared for particular competitions, this looks to the aimed improvement of results during the main competition of the year. Another part of this problem is the result itself. What must be its level to gain medals during this competition? The only way to answer this question is to make a forecast, based on the deep statistical and mathematical analysis.

Looking towards the 1990 Asian Games, we have done a forecast of results requirable for winning 1-3 places in track & field competition. For this purpose, the results of the Asian Games (1974-1986) as well as the best results demonstrated in 1988 & 1989 were analysed with the help of mathematical methods. The results of computer analysis are given in Table 1 & 2.

The probability of achieving the predicted results was evaluated using the following approach. If the difference between 1989 results and forecast is less than 2.5%, sportsmen have a good chance of gaining medals. In sprint events this range was 1.5%. If the difference is between 2.5% and 5%, the gaining chances are problematic. A difference of more than 5% shows the practical impossibility of gaining medals.

In evaluating the chances in throwing events

(women) and Hepta-Decathlon, these percentages are 5 and 10%. One of the compulsory circumstances of this forecast to be objective, is that all sportsmen to whom the best 1989 results belong (for example, P.T. Usha) will continue their preparation up to 1990.

The results of this analysis allow us to expect 6 medals in women's events (100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 400H) and 8 medals in men's (400, 800, 1500, 3000 sc, 5000, long jump, shot put, discus throw). Relays were not taken into consideration.

As a summary, it must be said that this forecast is made in optimistic manner. The predictions will hold good when all other conditions—namely, health, nutritious food, scientific advice, proper recovery procedures—are given to the sportsmen continuously.



NIKIL BATTACHARYA

THE 1990 BEIJING ASIAD?

TABLE ONE: MEN

Events	Best Indian results in 1988/1989	Forecast of Gold & Bronze medal performance	Per cent value of Indian results in comparison with forecast Gold/Bronze medals	Forecast rank and chances
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
100	10.85/10.89	10.30/10.45	98.3/97.7	11**
200	21.65/21.28	20.61/20.86	98.8/98	8**
400	48.35/47.13	45.0/46.5	95.5/98.7	10***
800	1.50.3/1.48.95	1.48/1.49.95	99.1/100.9	3***
1500	3.48.7/3.43.43	3.42/3.45	99.3/100.7	2***
3000 SCH	8.42.2/8.41.10	8.38/8.45	99.4/100.7	1***
5000	14.12.7/13.58.83	13.42/13.52	98/99.2	5***
10000	30.33.2/30.12.08	28.00/28.20	92.7/93.8	15*
100MH	14.28/14.45	13.9/14.22	96.2/98.4	9**
400MH	53.08/52.6	49.2/50.5	93.5/96	12*
Long Jump	7.53/7.90	8.10/7.95	97.5/99.4	7***
High Jump	2.13/2.11	2.28/2.22	92.5/95	13*
Triple Jump	15.68/15.98	17.19/18.75	92.7/95.4	15*
Pole Vault	4.90/4.90	5.60/5.30	87.5/92.4	17*
Javelin	69.24/71.08	78.10/74	91/96	14**
Shotput	18.77/18.28	18.70/18.40	97.7/99.3	6***
Discus Throw	52.92/57.70	60/57	96.2/101.2	4***
Hammer Throw	59.38/64.56	72/68	89.7/94.9	16*
Decathlon	6541/6572	7800/7300	84.2/90	18*

Can Usha prove the computers wrong?

TABLE TWO: WOMEN

Events	Best Indian results in 1988/1989	Forecast of Gold & Bronze medal performance	Per cent value of Indian results in comparison with forecast Gold/Bronze medals	Forecast rank and chances
100	12.25/11.74	11.5/11.7	98/99.5	5***
200	24.85/23.27	23.1/23.88	99.2/101.8	3***
400	53.85/51.9	51.84/54	99.9/104	1***
800	2.03.82/2.04.78	2.02/2.05	97.8/100.2	4***
1500	4.25/4.24.6	4.15/4.20	96.4/98.3	8***
3000	9.42.8/9.25.4	8.50/9.10	93.7/97.3	7**
10000	36.38.0/36.00.21	32.10/33.12	89.2/92	10*
100MH	14.75/14.86	13.2/13.6	91.9/94.7	9*
400MH	58.89/58.14	56.0/57.5	99.7/102.4	2***
Long Jump	5.88/6.15	6.60/6.40	93.2/96	8*
High Jump	1.73/1.70	1.95/1.88	87/90.4	11*
Javelin	51.88/50.50	60.15/58.00	83.8/86.9	12*
Shotput	13.85/14.42	20.80/18.00	69.3/80	15*
Discus	45.28/44.42	62.5/56	71/79	14*
Heptathlon	4022/4723	6100/5800	77.5/84.4	13*

DEVON MALCOLM

THE 'ANTI-HERO'

DEVON MALCOLM took to the hills to escape from the notoriety of being the new anti-hero of the Caribbean.

Officially, the fast bowler who had whipped the cream of West Indies batting in the First Test was 'visiting his grandmother' somewhere in the suburbs above the still shocked capital of Kingston.

That conveniently hid him away, out of sight and ear-shot of those ready to shout 'traitor' at the Jamaican-born bowler who did more than most to set up England's chance of an historic victory.

You sense that no-one in the England camp dared delve too deeply into the reasons for their sudden supremacy over the world's finest team less they suddenly discover it is all a dream. But it certainly helped when Malcolm, as shortsighted, studious and occasionally clumsy as Clark Kent, suddenly did a twirl and emerged as Superman.

After spending most of the tour hurling the shiny new ball into thin air he produced two spells of such explosive force that he finished England's finest day for 20 years with four wickets for 71. The figures don't matter so much as the names of his victims—Viv Richards, Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes and Jeff Dujon.

It was at the height of this performance that Malcolm, the local boy back in the town he left as a 16-year-old, took the worst of the abuse he had always expected. A group of louts—no, they are not always draped in the Union Jack—yelled something uncomplimentary. The local patois made it impossible to distinguish just that, but the words black and white figured prominently.

Outwardly at least Malcolm took it without a trace of emotion and without a break in his concentration.

'Whatever I do on the tour I can expect stick because of where I was born', he said. 'If I'm not taking wickets they'll say they are glad I left, if I am they'll accuse of deserting Jamaica. To be honest, I never really hear much from the crowd when I'm playing. The way I see it, the louder they shout the more successful I'm being'.

The greatest irony is, of course, that 26-year-old Malcolm would have been the one most likely to stay at home had the South African rebel tour not stripped the England team of at least three fast bowlers ahead of him in the pecking order.

He had been pencilled in manager Micky Stewart's mile-high thick dossier after being spotted making the Australians jump around on a green 'un at Derby. But he was a man very much for the

In Jamaica, he is called the 'traitor'
Devon Malcolm, the new English
between two worlds, has

PATRICK EAGAR



Devon Malcolm proves a point as he

SUPERMAN

**The English think he's 'heaven sent'.
Jamaican born fast bowler is caught
he just bowls the Windies over**



Sends one through Richards' gate

future, a bowler with an awful lot to learn.

He came to Derbyshire's attention almost by accident. Playing for a Yorkshire League eleven against the Yorkshire side in a pre-season practice he had laid flat Geoff Boycott's middle stump.

That feat is now commemorated by a framed photograph hanging on his living room wall in Sheffield. Its immediate effect was to bring a phone call from Derbyshire asking him to go for trials. Since then Malcolm has built a reputation as a bowler capable of tremendous pace but unconfined inaccuracy.

'People have always told me I'm naturally quick and that I'm able to produce an occasional very sharp delivery,' he said. 'But it wasn't until Michael Holding, the great West Indian bowler playing with Derbyshire, took me on one side that I realised I was wasting a lot of my natural talent. He told me there was no point just running up day in day out and bowling quickly. I had to learn every aspect of the game and I have tried to do.'

It showed as Malcolm kept up a sustained assault on a West Indies side who, until now, have had a monopoly on fast, bowling.

The watching Holding saw a startling difference between this Malcolm and the one who bowled for Derbyshire only last season.

'He has always been able to bowl a very fast, good delivery, but there were always too many bad ones sprinkled in between. Now there are fewer of those and the batsman no longer feels able to wait for that to come along. He's also much fitter. There's no way he could have bowled 20 overs in a day for Derbyshire last season, let alone bowl them flat out as he was still doing in the heat of Kingston.'

That naturally brings us back to England's super-fitness programme. So much emphasis has been put on it that it has become almost as exhausting to write about as to perform. Yet all England's success—their staying power, discipline and strength of character under pressure—can be traced back to it.

By designing it Stewart has laid the foundations of a working system that will not tolerate the 'optional' practice sessions of the bad old days.

Stewart managed to present a professionally glum face to the world. An incredible feat for a man who knows that he has not only transformed England's fortunes but guaranteed himself a new contract when his present three-year agreement expires in the spring. ●

Caribbean diary

By TONY LEWIS

"Many West Indians are seeing Viv Richards for the first time. I hope the sight of the players and our home grounds will get the youngsters back to the game again." : Richie Richardson

Beware the wrath of Viv Richards

THE most frightening reaction to England's win in the first Test may be Viv Richards' retaliation. England beware: his motivation is pride and, at the moment, it is being cruelly tickled by the Caribbean press.

I remember this time last year, when he was playing with a lot of physical discomfort against India, and he told me how annoyed he had been with an English journalist who wrote that his eyes had gone. He made 114 and took five catches at first slip.

"Not bad for a man who can't see," he sort of joked—but not quite. His eyes were sharp and blazing.

This is why I conclude that the new super-fit

Richards is a real threat. He is being chided in the Caribbean and England have had the audacity to beat his champion team. He has been prodded, and you know what happened to the lion and Albert.

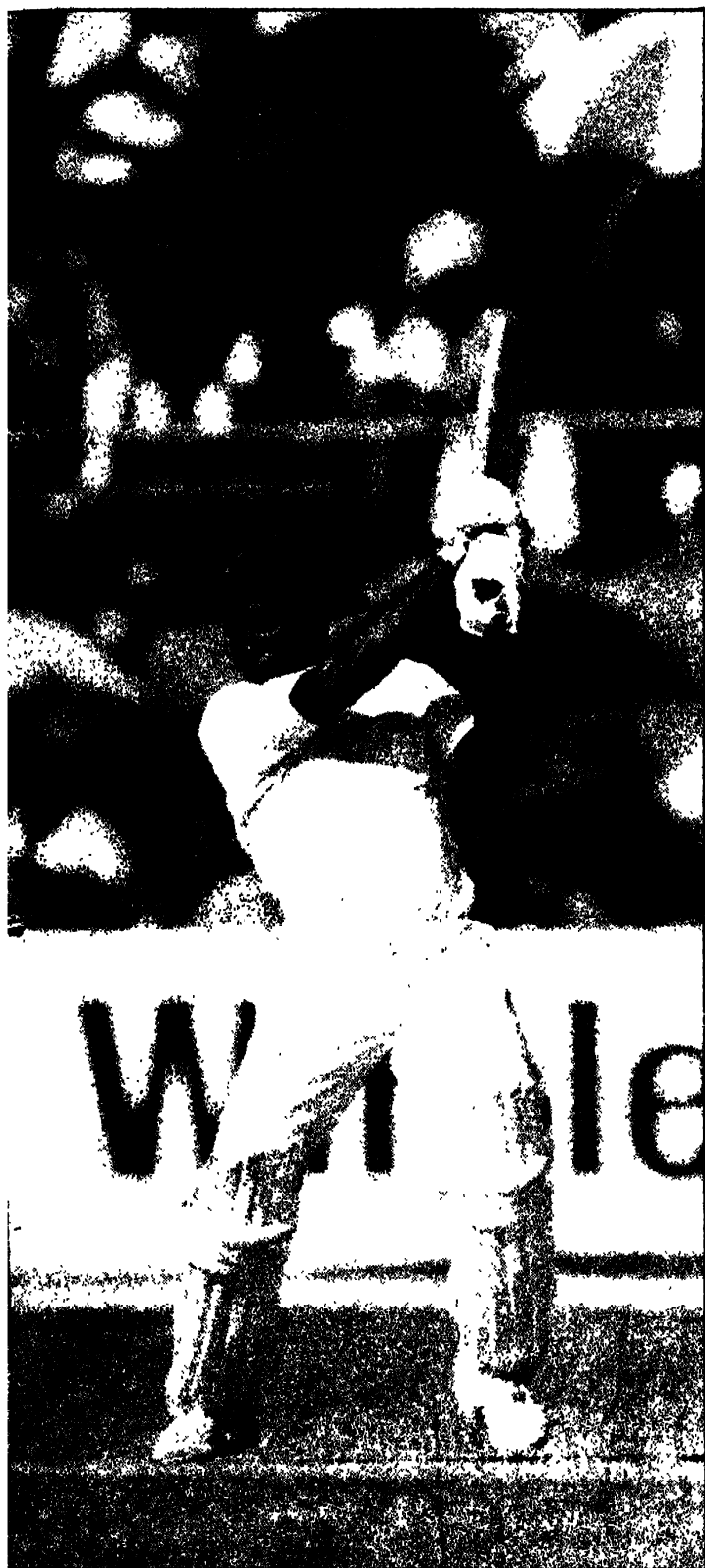
He has two problems which are well within his solving: firstly, he is marvellously fit these days now that he diligently follows a nutritional programme. "I feel 24," he said on television the other day. "If only I was as fit then as I am now, I could have been a better player."

Unfortunately for him—but not for England—he is trying to play as he did, but is forgetting the long, hard process of concentration which goes into the shaping of a big innings. This is not helped by his choice to bat at No 6.

Secondly, he has the approach of someone who has scaled the pinnacle of batsmanship and who now sees himself as a father.



Richardson in action against India



PATRICK EAGAR

England. Cricket is posing its popularity in the West Indies

figure, nurturing youngsters and taking less responsibility to score the runs himself.

Sir Garfield Sobers, who did the same, used to say "I'm too tired to go through all that effort again."

Not even great batsmen can find an easy time in cricket. I commend to Viv the words of Sir Leonard Hutton: "The older you are, the harder you have to work."

Both of these misjudgments will be cured the day Viv Richards' pride is hurt and he moves up to bat at No 4. For the moment, he is only annoyed enough to try to prove to his critics that he can do it at No 6. England must remain happy with that as long as it lasts.

Baseball man, not cricket

MICHAEL Holding is about to open a sports retail business in Jamaica but, apart from a limited line in locally produced garments, there will be no place on his shelves for cricket equipment.

That is a worrying indicator for the future well-being of the game in the West Indies where the hoped-for next generation of fluent batsmen and lethal pace bowlers are more likely to grow up as pitchers or point guards.

Holding said, "I might sell locally made cricket shirts and trousers, but the boys want basketball shoes, T-shirts, trainers and such like."

Young West Indians are more attracted to

The pool hosted a diving competition, though cricketers are generally poor swimmers. The dry-bobs toyed with a slippery board and launched themselves into contortions which they then declared to be jack-knives, double somersaults and pikes



David Gower on tour as a journalist calls home to file his report: 'Rain, no play'.

baseball and basketball—games so much cheaper to play than cricket. In any case it is often impossible to buy cricket equipment. Either it is not in the shops or they cannot afford it. The average wage in Antigua, for example, is £344 per month and a good new bat costs more than £100.

Helping to redress the balance, the British High Commission assists in Guyana with an annual £20,000 allocation towards recreational activities. Much of the money goes towards the purchase of

cricket equipment and instructional books.

Although there are domestic satellite dishes providing up to 112 mostly American channels, none shows cricket. Sky TV, however, are transmitting Test action to the Caribbean islands except the one where the match is being played.

That welcome exposure gives some ground for optimism. Richie Richardson, the West Indian batsman, says: 'Many West Indians are seeing Viv Richards for the first time. I hope the sight of the players and our

home grounds will get the youngsters back to the game again.

Taking a dive

WITH so much rain on this tour, life has been about books, evening sorties to the restaurant *Del Casa*, known as *Del Boys*, and, in my own case, positioning a waste bin stuffed with a towel under a leaking ceiling.

The England team pursued a holiday-camp programme of competitive games which keeps them active

but is risky. How often has a cricketer missed the first few games of a season because of an injury sustained playing five a side football? It was not surprising to learn that Nasser Hussain had sprained a wrist on the tennis courts.

The pool hosted a diving competition, though cricketers are generally poor swimmers. The dry bobs toyed with a slippery board and lurching themselves into contortions which they then declared to be jack-knives, double somersaults and pikes. ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which successful English club football team sang the 'Anfield Rap' last year?

2. Diego Maradona was offered \$21 million by a French businessman to pay for a French club. He agreed but later refused because of Mafia threats. Name the club.

3. Which sportsman was the first commercial client of Mark McCormack, the powerful boss of the sports management firm IMG?

4. Name the highest paid cyclist in the world.

5. The Iserlohn, a West German ice-hockey team was on the brink of financial collapse in 1988. They turned to an unusual figure to sponsor them who duly obliged. Name the sponsor.

6. In which sport is sponsorship apparently the most pervasive?

7. Which former Test cricketer was nicknamed 'Arkle'?

RATING TEST!

Above 15: Wish you were part of our quiz team!

Between 12 and 15: Your are not too bad.

Between 8 and 11: There is room for improvement.

Below 8: Sportsworld reading recommended.

8. Which English fast bowler cut short his club assignments in Australia to return home because he was missing his girlfriend?

9. Which Sri Lankan cricketer was dubbed 'The Colombo Kid' by Fleet Street in

1982?

10. Only one Indian bowler has claimed all eleven opposing batsmen during the course of a Test match (not innings). Name him.

11. Which cricketer is credited with

having the longest Test career in terms of years?

12. Who is the only all-rounder to have scored 2000 runs and take 200 wickets in the same season?

13. This historical Test centre has witnessed an F.A. Cup final, several rugby internationals and in 1939 was prepared as a POW camp. Name it.

14. What are the three weapons used for a fencing competition?

15. The 2m/sec wind-speed stipulation covers how many events in Track and Field?

16. Which were the 1st Olympic Games where over a 100 countries participated?

17. What does the name of the sports apparell firm 'Reebok' mean?

18. The rivalry of the two German sports equipment manufacturers Adidas and Puma is particularly intense. Why?

ANSWERS

1. Liverpool F.C.
2. Olympique Marseille.
3. Arnold Palmer, the golfer in 1959.
4. Greg Lemond of U.S.A., the winner of the 1989 Tour de France.
5. Libyan leader Col. Muammar Gaddafi.
6. Formula 1 motor racing.
7. England's Derek Randall.
8. Norman Cowans.
9. Skipper Arjuna Ranatunga.
10. S. Venkataraghavan, India vs N.Z., Delhi 1964-65.
11. Wilfred Rhodes of England who played 58 Test matches spread over 30 years and 315 days from 1909 to 1939-30.
12. George Herbert Hirst in 1906.
13. The Oval, Kensington.
14. Foli, Epee & Sabre.
15. Two. The 100m & 200m sprints.
16. Mexico City 1968, 112 countries.
17. Reebok (pronounced Ray-Bock) is a South African Antelope.
18. They are headed by the Dassler brothers. Adidas by Adi and Puma by Rudi.

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY

Shiv Rajan Sharma

109 Dayanand Vihar,

Vikas Marg Extension,

New Delhi 110092.

THE BEST OF
SPORT!





PHOTO FEATURE

**National Dirtraising
Championship? Or
just another
long-jumper hitting
the earth?**

Eammon McCabe Observer

1 2000 1 5 300mm



'Catch it!'

Roy Peters

1 500 1 5 100mm



**'Ugh! Your armpit
stinks!'**

David Jacobs/ Action Images

1/500 sec. f2.8-300mm lens



**'Okay photographers,
have you got the smile you are
looking for?'**

Craig Halkett/ Evenin' Times. Glasgow

1/250-f2.8 190mm

1/125-f2.5-50mm Chris Smith/ Sunday Times **'Mummy!'**



Excerpted from 'The Sports
Photographer of the Year Book
1986' published by Partridge Press
and priced at £ 12.95

The Tennis Itinerary

THE well-known tennis correspondent had the atlas spread out in front of him.

"When one reaches my stage in seniority," he began, "one has to be very careful about the tournament to cover."

I nodded.

"You see, I plan my programme well in advance," said the tennis correspondent. Then gesturing towards the atlas he said, "It's only March, but I have finalised my plans till the end of 1999."

"I never knew tennis coverage needs such thorough planning," I said.

The correspondent opened a suitcase which was packed with airline schedules, tourist literature, currency conversion tables and so on.

Then he opened an impressive looking diary. "Let me give you a glimpse of my schedule," he said.

"Certain tournaments are a must. For instance, the French, Wimbledon and the US Open. These select themselves."

"That is clear," I said.

"The problems arise with the not-so-important

tournaments," he said. "Should I cover the Italian Open at Rome, The Volvo Masters at Stockholm, the Golden Racket tournament at Dallas, the Seiko tournament at Tokyo and so on."

"A tough task," I said. "I think it's here that experience counts."

He nodded. "That's right. One chooses these tournaments on the basis of the players participating, the size of the prize money, the professionalism of the authorities and so on. Mind you, there are other factors."

"Are there?" I asked.

He nodded. "Despite my experience and



know-all, I have missed out a tournament this year. Now, I must make sure I won't repeat the mistake next year. I must be at Bordeaux in 1991, even if that means sacrificing one of the major tournaments."

"What is so important about Bordeaux?" I asked.

"I will come to that in a moment," replied the senior tennis correspondent. "When I say, I must cover that tournament next year, there is a rider attached to it. I will cover it only if Ivan Lendl participates, that much is clear."

"Oh, yes," I agreed. "After all, he is the No. 1 and brings added prestige to whichever tournament he takes part."

The tennis correspondent hesitated a bit. "Not just that," he said. "The Bordeaux tournament has its own charm. Do you know that this year's winner Ivan Lendl, besides the 45,000 dollars cheque, also won 1990 bottles of wine." He licked his lips and swallowed hard.

"And mind you," continued the senior tennis correspondent. "He did not claim the wine bottles

because he does not drink. And one of my colleagues who was covering the tournament informed me that the rejected wine was given away, free to tennis correspondents." He began to drool and wiped his mouth with a hanky.

"Must have been an unforgettable experience for them," I said.

The tennis correspondent wiped his eyes. "And so think I missed out such a tournament," he sighed. Then clearing his throat he declared, "I only hope that Ivan Lendl is there at Bordeaux in 1991 because I very much intend to be there."

The Americans In Trouble

FOR David Vanole it was a tragedy. Reason? He refused to sign the renewed United States Soccer Federation (USSF) contract, at the get together of the national team at New York's Waldorf Hotel. Thus the squad's goalkeeper at the Seoul Olympics, and one who played some of the World Cup qualifying games, is virtually finished as a player. He left the training camp in a huff (Paul Caligiuri, who also did not sign, continued to attend training). The 20 years young Kasey Keller is Vanole's replacement.

Costa Rica Sacks Coach

MARVIN RODRIGUEZ, the squad's third coach since June 1989 when the World Cup qualifying campaign was launched, has at last been sacked! And his replacement is none other than Argentine, Cesar Menotti. Officially, it was Costa Rica's loss to Chivas, a second division Mexican side in the last week of February that embarrassed Marvin Rodriguez. But unofficially it was said to be his unpopularity with influential players of the squad who were disenchanted. So four coaches have been used since June 1989. A record?

Colombians On Hit List

AN anti drug leftist group called 'Clean Football in Colombia' emerged suddenly in early February. They have threatened the Colombian Soccer Federation of dire consequences and the national team manager Mr Francisco Maturana of death if they used players from Nacional Medellin, America Cali and Millonarios Bogota - all of whom are allegedly using drug money to

prosper. But the Federation officials vowed to continue training for Italia 1990, ignoring the threats.

What a pity that the best Colombian team of all time may now pay for the sins of the drug barons who are shareholders in pro clubs.

The British Need Help

NOW the English hero, Bryan Robson described as a 'player's player' is in deep trouble. A groin injury against Liverpool has seen him inactive since December 1989. He's had a hernia operation that will keep him away till April. Perhaps he has made a record of being the most injury-prone English player in two decades of English soccer. But isn't his soccer fantastic?

The Dutch In Trouble

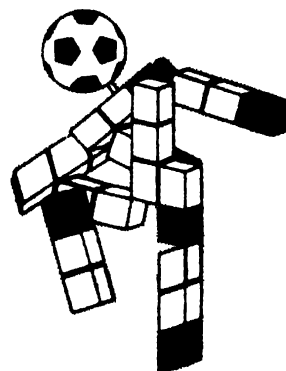
WHEN a virtual Holland (B) side lost to Brazil in December 89, it was the first match they had lost in 18 months. But thanks to the notorious mercenary attitude (call it player power) of the players, manager Thjs Libregts is in danger. Of being sacked! Because of his unpopularity with his players and Dutch fans.

Having also qualified for the 14th World Cup by topping the group, Libregts was allegedly using a cautious style, out of tune with the flamboyant Dutch style. Gullit was furious with him for the latter's remark, 'He's a good player, but like most blacks, is lazy, made some years ago. It seems that only one player, Van Tiggelen is backing him with you can't say anything against him anymore.' Amidst the mutual mud slinging in Dutch football, Libregts is recovering from a hernia operation. His assistant Nol de Ruiter is handling the side. Will Libregts follow Zagalo and Marvin Rodriguez to oblivion?

WORLD CUP NEWS



Bryan Robson is in deep trouble



Frank Rijkaard

The Stormtrooper

1 988 was a very special year for Holland. As European soccer began to break loose from the monotony of its systematic, mathematical style, ever since the Danes mesmerised Mexico, the arrival of a number of highly individualistic, innovative skilled gamemakers turned the game towards a whole new dimension. Their repertoire was rich, versatile enough to cut across almost all the departments of soccer—the defence, the midfield and of course most importantly, the attack. The concept of total football, which pundits argue has still not been fully implemented anywhere in the world, now seemed poised to take shape on a new level of individualistic flair. And one of the men who exemplified this new, welcome development in the alarmingly stagnating European football was Frank Rijkaard.

Born on September 30, 1962, Rijkaard almost irrepressibly burst on to the world of professional soccer when he was only 17. And right from the beginning, he impressed his coaches with his capability to excel both in the defence and midfield. The concept of the libero, born years ago, still held its charm on European coaches and the promise that Rijkaard displayed soon woke them up to the delight of experimenting with a utility man who could augment his usefulness with pure genius.

Right from the beginning, Frank Rijkaard proved so much in demand that leading clubs sought to outmanoeuvre each other to have him in their arsenal.

And in 1982 Holland's football authorities sent him to make his international debut against Switzerland despite protests from his club, Ajax Amsterdam, that he was too young. Young Rijkaard displayed that he was mature enough to take on the world. And Frank Rijkaard did not have to look back thereafter.

In 1987, when PSV Eindhoven was faced with the crisis of Ruud Gullit's transfer to Milan, they wanted Frank Rijkaard to join their squad. After month-long hectic activities in the corridors of soccer diplomacy, Rijkaard signed an option contract at a meeting with Philips officials. But, sensing the implications of his departure, in came Johan Cruyff, the Ajax boss, and used his enormous influence to persuade PSV Eindhoven to take their hands off the contract. Johan Cruyff saw to it that Rijkaard was immediately declared the skipper of Ajax Amsterdam. Now Frank Rijkaard was one indispensable man in Dutch football.

The Cruyff-Rijkaard alliance did not last long, however. Perhaps, it was Rijkaard's inflated ego that soon brought about a personality clash with the glamorous Ajax boss, and following a row Rijkaard left Amsterdam in 1987.

At first, Milan wanted to sign him, but as the negotiations dragged on for too long, Sporting Lisbon stepped in to cash in on the situation. But again, by the time, the talks neared completion, the Portuguese deadline for signing foreigners had come and gone, and a frustrated, crestfallen Rijkaard was transferred out to Zaragoza on loan.

But fortunately for Rijkaard, the season of frustration proved brief as AC Milan soon returned with a £3.5 million offer that Sporting could not refuse and Rijkaard joined AC Milan after the European finals. Since then in Milan, the genius of Frank Rijkaard continues to blossom till it reaches its complete splendour in Rome. ●

The concept of total football, which pundits argue has still not been fully implemented, now seemed poised to take shape in the genius of Frank Rijkaard...



WORLD CUP TEAMS

THREE thousand five hundred years after the Egyptian Pharaoh,

Ramesses II pursued the Hebrew Prophet Moses across the Sinai desert (and attempted a vain Red Sea crossing). Mahmoud El Gohary and his merry squad are pursuing the FIFA World Cup across the Mediterranean Sea, in Italy.

The Egyptians are all set to take on the European soccer might of Holland, England and Ireland in their first round group of the World Cup. They are one of the two African squads to represent the continent's might (traditionally dominated by the north and the west) in soccer's greatest show.

For the north African state, so renowned for its rich history, it has been a long wait. In 1924, (Paris) Egypt played its first Olympic soccer tournament. And was an immediate sensation. They routed the highly favoured Hungarians by 3-0. In the next Olympiad at Amsterdam in 1928, the land of the Pharaohs became world headlines. They conquered Turkey and Portugal. Reached the semifinals, only to be routed by the formidable Argentines, 0-6.

That was not all. Playing its first World Cup tournament in 1934 (Italy), they clashed with the Hungarians once again, after their previous meeting in the Paris Olympiad, but were bundled out of the competition with a 2-4 loss.

Ever since, Egypt has been a major force in



EGYPT

African soccer. But it was the clubs—El Ahly, Arab Contractors, Ismaili, Zamalek and Mehalla mainly that took the honours, rather than the national squad. "Our clubs are good, but not the Egypt team," lamented an embittered spokesman of the Egyptian federation.

After finishing first in the African Nations Cup

in 1957 and 1959, and coming second in 1962, followed by a third in 1963, the national side had to wait till 1986, to become African champions yet again. The 1986 win was particularly relishing. They beat a formidable Cameroon in front of President Hosni Mubarak and a 100,000-strong crowd

in Cairo.

The clubs proved their mettle too. El Ahly took its third consecutive Cup Winners Cup in 1987. Zamalek joined the victory glut by becoming the champion club of Africa in 1986 and 1987. So it was not a surprise to find Egypt back in the World Cup after 56 years.



Egypt's path to Italy was however clouded by bitterness and controversy. Violence and death too.

In the first leg of the Third Round playoff staged in Constantinople, they held the redoubtable Algerians to a goalless draw. In the return leg at Cairo, the Egyptians took the lead, and with strong defensive play, held on till the end. Thousands of fans as far away as Baghdad erupted on the streets in wild celebration and clashed with the Iraqis. Some Egyptians died in

Manager: MAHMOUD EL GOHARY
Colours: RED SHIRTS. WHITE SHORTS.
WHITE STOCKINGS
Opponents: GROUP F (CAGLIARI & PALERMO):
HOLLAND-ENGLAND-IRELAND
Previous World Cup appearances: 1934:
First round elimination

the fracas. More than a hundred were seriously injured. Forcing a major diplomatic incident, with President, Hosni Mubarak holding talks with his Iraqi counterpart... and things cooling thereafter.

The Federation has not released the names of the 22 strong squad,

yet Hany Ramzy, alongwith Abu Zeid (the "Egyptian Maradona") are the two on whom Gohary is depending. The latter at 27 years is at his peak. This man combines skills and guts.

Abde Ghani is their midfield star. Behind him in defence are,

Abdel Hamid (32), the squad's most experienced player, and Rabi Yassin (29). The rest of this squad will be formed in all probability by the big guns of El Ahly, Zamalek and Arab Contractors.

In the past, Egyptian players have been rather individualistic, often at the cost of team spirit and organisation. Yet, only one player, Mahmoud Al Khatib, one of Egypt's greatest forwards ever, was voted Africa's Player of the Year, in 1984.

In the qualifying rounds, the Egyptians displayed a blend of German tactical sophistication and British forcefulness, allied to their natural African skills and got the results. A right blend you may say!

The time has come for some of the so-called outsiders, to make an impact in Italy. The Africans have come in for a great deal of praise recently. Even FIFA are seriously considering awarding a third berth to the continent, by reducing one from Europe. Because in the last twenty years, the Africans have shown that it is only they who could become a serious threat to the established powers.

This time at least two of the so-called 'outsiders' have a reasonable chance to progress into the second round and further. Will Egypt (and Cameroon) thus make soccer history? Ask the English and Dutch hooligans. Ask the weather gods. And ask the Italian "ambiente"!

By Pallab Muhury



NICE AND GENTLE

LIVING a dog a bad name is nothing compared to the stigma of carrying a notorious family connection in sport. No Caribbean sprinter could lightly live down the name Johnson. And no soccer player called Gentile is likely to be above suspicion in Europe.

Thus, when Marco Gentile, the Den Haag defender, broke the leg of Romario, PSV Eindhoven's Brazilian goalscorer, Sunday, before last, the assumptions were unforgiving.

La Gazzetta dello Sport in Italy pronounced: "Ilcugino di Gentile rompe Romario"—the cousin of Gentile broke Romario.

From Rome to Rio, the message is that destruction is in the blood. Claudio Gentile, the former Juventus tackler dubbed the Butcher of Turin, has retired to his pet parrots, but a new Gentile carries on the tradition.

Poor Claudio. He once tore the shirt off Brazil's Zico; he fractured both cheekbones of Sweden's Lars Bastrup; but never, say his admirers, did he break anybody's leg.

Most players swear there is no such beast as a man intent on depriving another of livelihood. But some of us have felt we observed deliberate impact that minimally was designed to finish an opponent's part in a match

Poor Marco. Just 21, he earns his first big headline by doing precisely that.

To judge the tackle—never mind the intent—from Italy is precarious. But Dutch friends say it was a deliberate kick at Romario.

Den Haag was suffering a 9-2 humiliation as PSV was coasting toward a European Champions Cup quarterfinal first leg at Bayern Munich.

The break not only deprives PSV of its top scorer but the damage above his right ankle impedes Romario's appearance in the World Cup finals this June.

Recriminations fly as indiscriminately as the younger Gentile's boot, but who is to judge malice?

Most players swear there is no such beast as a man intent on depriving another of livelihood. But some of us have felt we observed deliberate impact that minimally was designed to finish an opponent's part in a match; and three weeks ago I was close enough to see the embittered eyes of a British player who ran 15 yards to hack down a player.



NT(I)LE...

Romario has to mend his bone and his spirit

is how the Brazilian
striker Romario
broke his leg and in
the process got a
taste of the
destructive man-
hunters who prowl
football fields

It is no good turning into blind public relations apologists and pretending all violence is accidental. Because of money, jealousy and winner-takes-all ethics, there are hired kickers out there.

Romario's art preys on torment. He moves on impulse and so quickly that to stop him is like trapping an electric eel.

How often do we see defenders lunge and miss him altogether? And how can we deny that he, too, plays acts and overreacts?

Indeed, Romario is banned from Brazil's first World Cup game after punching a Chilean assailant in the qualifiers.

But he lives to score goals. He thrives, like a Maradona or a Hugo Sanchez, on personal glory. Without him, PSV will seek a tactical stalemate in Munich, hoping Wim Keift, or the exciting Zambian, Kalusha Bwalya, can strike in his stead.

Meanwhile, mending the spirit as well as the bone is the challenge to Romario. His first visitor—showing that international relations are not necessarily crushed in the professional sporting ethos—was Frank Arnesen.

Arnesen, a Dane whose fine skills have been blighted by serious injuries in the Netherlands, spent one day at Romario's house.

The Dane talked of some of his unexpectedly quick comebacks, and how quickly pain and fear are forgotten when the ball comes again.

Romario was too depressed to take much of it in. And some time later came the call. What call? If you ask, you cannot know what lies inside a wounded athlete.

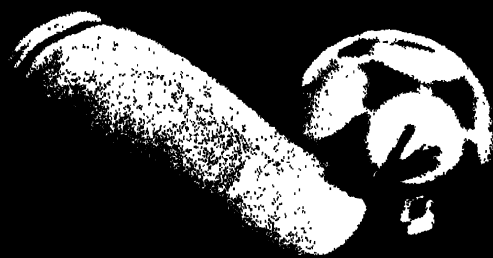
Romario needed above all to hear from Sebastao Lazaroni, Brazil's national team manager. Lazaroni was there when needed, reassuring his player over and over for an hour that Romario's place on the Brazilian World Cup squad would remain open until the last moment, the last second.

But no manager can predict the healing time. Nature still has some say in our lives. Besides, the essence of a goalscorer is a curious mixture of the alert and the blind—alert to see the opening, blind to the pain that may ensue.

But what certainties does life hold even for sportsmen insulated against most normalities?

Rob Hughes

COURTESY: INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE



SPECIAL FEATURES

WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING...

MRS JOHN

Tatum O'Neal and husband John McEnroe revel in their tempestuous relationship



FORMER child star Tatum O'Neal is giving up her role as tennis wife and full-time mother to go back to her first love—the screen

Tatum, the youngest Oscar-winner in cinema history, will make *Little Noises* opposite Crispin Glover, who played Michael J. Fox's father in the *Back To The Future* films. Nicknamed Tantrum in her child-star days, she hasn't made a movie since *Certain Fury* flopped five years ago. Instead, she has been concentrating on a married life of bliss and battles with the Superbrat of the centre court, John McEnroe.

The prettier half of the mercurial partnership said three years ago "I want a real life now, not a career." But even then friends were predicting it was only a matter of time. They were certain that sooner or later the life of a tennis circus follower—bounced like a ball from country to country with two children in tow, sitting on the sidelines watching her husband battle it out with opponents and referees alike—would pale for her.

And, of late the strain

MCENROE?

Bored of travelling the world with husband John McEnroe and their two young kids, Tatum O'Neal is returning to the movie business that made her an Oscar-winner and millionairess at the tender age of 14

**Tatum and father Ryan—
their rows are legendary**

is beginning to show on her face Tatum now 26 said "Travelling with children is exhausting and it is not just the journeys There is all the packing and preparation, too It is very difficult to lead a normal life"

And for someone who had excitement, independence and wealth of her own long before she met McEnroe—she was a millionairess in her own right by the time she was 14—sitting watching someone else hit a ball must be less than thrilling

It is two years since Tatum and John began to talk about her return to the big screen McEnroe who learned basic nappy-changing and bottle-warming with first son Kevin now four, was looking forward to practising on new baby Sean as soon as Tatum was finished breast-feeding As he said "Being a house-husband is appealing My idol John



**"John gets so angry with me that he yells, 'you're the female John McEnroe—and you've got all his worst qualities'"
—Tatum O'Neal**



Tatum took riding lessons for her part in *International Velvet*

"I'm a contented daddy and Tatum needs the fulfillment of resuming her acting career"—John McEnroe

Lennon eventually did it and I'd enjoy it, too. I've already been all over the world and met everyone I ever wanted to.

I'm a contented daddy and Tatum needs the fulfillment of resuming her acting career. I love the idea of staying at home looking after the kids, changing nappies and playing games with them," he continued. "I suppose I would rather be the No. 1 father and husband in the world than the No. 1 guy with a tennis racket."

Tatum admitted she was missing the excitement of filming even then. Although taking care of John and our children is the most fantastic career ever, I do want to start acting again," she said.



Tatum was just getting to be friends with mother Joanna Moore when a suspected robbery soured things up again

IT has taken them two years to get from the planning to the doing stage. The couple, who met at a party in Los Angeles in October 1984 and hit it off right from the start, have hardly had a conventional marriage.

The night after they met, at another party hosted by Rod Stewart's

ex-wife Alana, they again spent the entire evening together. Alana, who was interested in McEnroe at the time, was not too pleased. But, by the time Tatum and John parted, they had arranged to meet in New York a few days later. Then it was off to a Las Vegas film location for her and a Stockholm tennis tournament for him.

Despite the difficulties of conflicting schedules, they were soon together in Malibu. And McEnroe was discovering that the life of a tennis celebrity is quite private compared with the world of the movie star.

Photographers hid in the garden and camped around the corner. When he went to the beach, he was followed. If he went to the supermarket, the paparazzi went too.

McEnroe hated every minute of it. To Tatum, however, it was already a normal part of life. As she said, "I'm used to it—it's the way it always has been. After a while you have to say to yourself, 'it's just not that important'."

Their wedding came nine weeks after the birth of their first baby. The groom wore a tuxedo and tennis shoes. And the first the bride's father, actor Ryan O'Neal, knew about it was a telegram telling him the ceremony was already over.

After surviving their first explosive years as lawful wedded husband and wife, the couple with two of the toughest tempers in California admitted they were still having "beautiful fights." Tatum said "John gets so angry

with me that he yells, 'you're the female John McEnroe—and you've got all his worst qualities'."

NOT that Tatum's background has accustomed her to tranquil family relationships. Ryan O'Neal, who had upset his daughter by

courts, Tatum packed her bags and turned up on the doorstep of her father who, by then, was divorced from second wife Leigh Taylor-Young. She never left again. Griffin followed several years

Younger brother Griffin took drink and drugs and has a string of driving convictions

O'Neals—as the rest of the cast called them—while they were filming. But not only did the film win her an Oscar as Best Supporting Actress but three years later she became the first child ever to be named Female Star of the Year by the

National Association of Theatre Owners



"I suppose I would rather be the No. 1 father and husband in the world than the No. 1 guy with a tennis racket"
—John McEnroe

referring to McEnroe as "a washed-up Irishman with more money than sense" had divorced her mother Joanna Moore when Tatum was three and her brother Griffin was two.

After living with her mother in a hippie commune while the custody battle raged on through the local

later

Tatum says "My father did not exactly encourage me to go into films. We were offered Paper Moon when I had just moved in with him from my mother's and we accepted it. It came at the right time. I suppose."

There were battles between the fighting

Instant success did not go to Tatum's head. Not too keen to act again immediately after Paper Moon, she went to boarding school, cooked and kept house for her father, wore make-up from the age of 10 and bullied Ryan over his girlfriends.

After a time she went back to work to make



the comedy *The Bad News Bears* with Walter Matthau, who wasn't one of her biggest fans. By her 14th birthday she was on location in England making *International Velvet* after tough riding lessons and a crash course in overcoming homesickness.

And she was giving a remarkably mature response to interviewers who asked if she regretted her 'lost childhood'. "Other 14-year-olds do nothing", she said. "They just hopscotch, watch cartoons on TV, fight, get upset, fail to communicate. I went through all that. I went into boarding school right after my first

picture. All I did was fight. So that's what I'm missing."

Tatum, however, was not missing out on her education—well, no more than could be helped. There was tutoring for her on the set between takes. But she already had strong ideas on what might and might not be useful for her future. "Some subjects are just ridiculous," she said. "Like long division. I'm not going to be needing that. I'll have a business manager and an accountant."

TATUM's relationship with her mother has been anything but conventional, too. Just as she and Joanna were

Happy family: Farah Fawcett, Ryan O'Neal, Griffin and Tatum

becoming friends again last year Tatum reported to the police that she suspected her mother had stolen a suitcase with \$110,000 worth of Tatum's jewellery in it.

The case had been in the boot of Joanna's car which she reported to the police as stolen. But Tatum determined to jolt her mother out of her fondness for drugs and alcohol, according to friends—was suspicious since her mother told her she had reported the theft of the car hours before she actually did.

Her brother Griffin too has gone the tempestuous way with

alcohol and drugs ruling his life. After numerous scrapes with the law, and time behind bars, an eventual showdown with father Ryan saw him minus a couple of teeth.

With a family life like hers, Tatum hardly needs film scripts for excitement.

But McEnroe is proud of the way she has stood up to the stresses of her own stormy background and the strains of competitive international tennis.

He says: "It's a real credit to Tatum just how well she has turned out, considering."

Judy Byrne
ASIA FEATURES

A DISASTROUS DEBUT

Sweetly ended

THIS week we shall sing the praises of Paul Robbins of Hoddesden Town. Robbins, a footballer, generally plays centre forward but on a very wet and dreary typical English day he played goalie and tasted triumph.

The match against Park Street had finished at 1-1 after extra time, and a penalty shoot-out was held. Tony Tillbrook, Hoddesden's regular goalie, saved the third penalty but the referee said that he had moved and ordered a re-kick. Several expletives were exchanged and Tillbrook was ordered off.

Robbins took the jersey and promptly saw his side fall behind 2-3. Disaster on his debut as goalie and defeat stared him full on the face.

Then the God of good fortune which smiles on drunks, madmen and goalies took over. Robbins's first two touches as goalkeeper saw him save two penalties. Hoddesden scored from their own. The game was won at 4-3.



BEN JOHNSON?

Jason Livingstone, I presume?



DOES this sprinter look familiar? Yes, he's Ben Johnson! No, he's not. He is Jason Livingstone, one of Britain's most promising sprinters after Linford Christie, Marcus Adams and John Regis. He, however, is an ardent fan of Johnson's. So much so that Christie has started calling him Baby Ben.

Livingstone in fact, has pictures of Johnson splashed all over his bedroom and watches videos of him everyday. He's 18 years old and wants to be number one in the world. Not surprisingly, he tries to emulate his idol from the way he wears his hair, right down to his running spikes which are sponsored by the same company as Ben's.

Livingstone's coach Jim Faichnie has predicted that he will reach his peak in about four to five years. "He's dedicated and totally committed to athletics. He studies his sport and takes it seriously," Faichnie said.

BRITAIN'S Iron Woman, Mrs Maggie Thatcher is quite a soccer fan. She also, like British football, has a penchant for controversies and confrontations.

Recently, Mrs T. had gone to Ibrox, the home of the Glasgow Rangers football club, to make the draw for the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup. The lady, it seems, has an obvious taste for Scottish football. In 1990,

SAY IT FOR MAGGIE

And British football



she had presented the Scottish Cup to the Celtic captain Roy Aitken. Immediately, scandal rags all over Britain carried a front page cartoon.

The cartoon showed Mrs T. presenting the trophy to Roy Aitken and a bubble emerging from Aitken's mouth which said "I'm still not going to pay my poll tax."

Soccer and politics, it seems are good friends in Britain.



"At present the rest of India needs the Calcutta clubs more than we need the rest of India. We would willingly play in fewer tournaments"
—Amal Dutta

INDIAN FOOTBALL

Professionalism Has Begun

THE global trends against totalitarianism has had an impact on amateur Indian football

Professionalism is fast creeping in through the back door. And the hegemony of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and organisers of prestigious domestic tournaments is rapidly declining. The inexorable logic of market forces is penetrating the feudal, patronising the amateur set-up of Indian football. In this struggle for power, the first casualty could be the Rovers Cup, Durand Cup and the IFA Shield.

To attract the best, (in India means East Bengal, Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan Sporting) match fees and appearance money are important than the prestige of the tournaments. The trends in the last few months have shown that the Calcutta clubs are now insisting on participation fees in a

tournament.

The old order is being replaced by the new. The money power of newer tournaments like the Nai Dunia at Indore or

the Nizam Gold Cup in Hyderabad is more attractive than the prestigious Rovers Cup for the Big Three. "Money, money,



Now the Calcutta clubs will only go to

money, it is a rich man's world " The Western India Football Association (WIFA) could not cope with the financial demands of Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan SC Both these clubs wanted not only a hike in allowances but also fees at the rate of Rs 25,000 per match in the quarter-final league, Rs 40,000 for the semis and Rs 60,000 for the final So had one Calcutta club

1985 Durand Cup: The Mohun Bagan keeper grasps the ball in time in the semi-final against ITI, Bangalore



reached the final the total cost would have been Rs 1,75,000 as match fees Besides this demand, the Calcutta clubs are paid first class rail fare, daily allowances, free board and lodging and medical aid, for 22-24 members The total cost per club would have been around Rs 2 75-3 lakh

A WIFA representative, Pervez Ziauddin considered such terms preposterous However, Mohammedan Sporting's secretary, Ibrahim Ali Mollah said "Our demands are perfectly reasonable, we

The Future Trend

The changing times also affected the Durand the oldest tournament in the country and always held at the seat of power. The Big Three acted in unison prior to the 1989 Durand and demanded appearance money besides the usual generous expenses. It may be recalled that since 1987, the Durand had been offering prize or incentive money to the winners and runners-up. The winner gets Rs 1.50 lakhs and the runners-up Rs 1 lakh. Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd. (IPCL) and KRIBHCO provided the sponsorship

However, even the lure of prize money was insufficient for the Calcutta clubs The situation became alarming and tournament secretary Ajit Singh flew to Calcutta for negotiations. Finally, the three clubs agreed to come for a nominal fee of Rs 25,000 which will be negotiable again next year. East Bengal emerged champions, Mohun Bagan runners-up, so they returned home considerably richer

Mohammedan SC lost in the semis and so the financial gains were paltry Their manager Mohammed Umer suggested that "even the semi-finalists should get a cash incentive." The Durand have agreed to this request and in the 1990 tournament the losing semi-finalists will also get prize money. Ajit Singh said "Arranging for sponsorship is a difficult task and we will have to work throughout the year to meet our financial commitments but we realise it is the trend for the future "

have been getting equivalent amounts from the DCM tournament committee for years " The DCM tournament committee joint secretary, Mr R K Gupta confirmed that "since the Eighties East Bengal and Mohammedan SC cost us about Rs 2 75 lakhs each annually They take match fees besides free board and lodging and travel expenses " Mohun Bagan doesn't participate in the DCM on a matter of principle

However with the exit of Mr Dhiren Dey from the Mohun Bagan management this trend may alter soon

The DCM set the trend of match fees payment to the Calcutta clubs about two decades ago From 1969 to 1972 neither Mohammedan SC nor East Bengal participated in the DCM tournament The then late secretary Mr Sood had felt piqued that the Calcutta clubs treated the DCM somewhat indifferently Was it because of the rumblings heard in the tournament committee? However 1968 saw East

urnaments which pay match fees



"Club football at a professional level is the only way to improve national standards, as the players learn how to fight for two points every week. Thus both mental toughness and professional skills increase"—AFC secretary Peter Vellapan

Bengal took their first prequarter match to RAC Bikaner 2-3. Mohammedan SC drew 1-1 with unfancied BEG Roorkee, won the replay but lost their next match to Gorkha Brigade 1-2. However in 1973, the new tournament secretary Mr G Sinha decided to recall the Calcutta clubs. By then the quarter-final league phase had started. To ensure adequate performances, both East Bengal and Mohammedan SC were assured of a match fee. As Calcutta League and IFA Shield champions East Bengal were paid more. Coached by P K Banerjee, the star-studded East Bengal team, including Habib, Akbar, Subhas Bhowmick, Sudhir Karmakar and Gautam Sarkar, annexed the DCM Trophy that year. As payment of match fees, East Bengal got Rs 40,000, for two quarter-final league matches (against Tatas and Mafatlal), a semi-final vs Leaders Club and the final vs Dok Ro Gong, North Korea. Since then the DCM tournament has been progressively paying more to both East Bengal and Mohammedan SC to participate.

The other major tournament organisers resisted the DCM's trend of payment of match fees. An old-timer like the Durand secretary Wing, Cdr K K Ganguly (retd) was contemptuous of such commercialisation. But the DCM has had the last laugh. Now the Calcutta clubs will only go to tournaments which pay match fees. Money is

mandatory not prestige (See box)

PRIZE money and appearance money has come to stay in Indian football. The organisers of the Nehru Centenary Cup in Calcutta paid East Bengal, Mohammedan SC and Salgaocar (Goa) Rs 25,000 each per match. For the first time, the Federation Cup organised by the AIFF at Trichur will have prize money worth Rs 3 lakhs. So professionalism in its embryonic stages has arrived in the Indian scene. Prize money is open to all the participating teams but appearance fees are only for those teams with crowd-pulling power. Besides the Big Three the other teams with prestige value and a fan following throughout India are Salgaocar and Dempo of Goa and JCT Mills, Phagwara.

Salgaocar, winners of the Federation Cup twice in a row (1988 and 1989) have earned the accolade of being the Champion Club of India and this automatically increases their bargaining power. It is prestigious to have Salgaocar playing in a tournament because they can be paraded as the Champion Club of India, which could lead to Doordarshan coverage and subsequent increase in hoardings and advertisement revenue for the tournament organisers. The top football clubs of India are realising their value and so their demands to tournament committees have increased. With better financial rewards it is hoped that professional

management and training methods in our clubs will improve.

WIFA piqued at the Calcutta clubs' desertion of the Rovers Cup are seeking support within the AIFF to declare Mohun Bagan, Mohammedan SC and East Bengal as professional clubs. Such a move is irrelevant now and will only aggravate the problems. As Amal



Mr. G. Sinha, 1973 DCM tournament committee secretary, decided to recall the Calcutta clubs who were paid match fees

Dutta the Mohun Bagan coach bluntly put it "At present the rest of India needs the Calcutta clubs more than we need the rest of India. We would willingly play in fewer tournaments." WIFA should thus come to terms with the changing milieu. They should realise that in a market economy mere bureaucratic decisions will get marginalised, if they do not satisfy

consumer interests. If the paying public wants to see the Calcutta clubs, a tournament committee has to get them, to maintain their status as an all-India tournament. To get the Calcutta clubs in the nineties will mean forking out appearance fees, which means tie-ups with local business, sponsorship and efficient management.

Pressure tactics in the AIFF will not drive back the new economic forces working in Indian football. The clock cannot be turned back. A significant development took place during the 1989 Durand tournament. On Dec 25, 1989, 22 players of the Big Three clubs (nine from Mohun Bagan, 7 from East Bengal and six from Mohd Sporting) met at Rajdoot Hotel in Delhi and formed a players association to negotiate with the clubs for better contracts and playing conditions. The players are also aware of their rights. This is a democratic era.

So the AIFF should tread wearily. Undue pressure could lead to fragmentation. Like in international tennis in the Fifties and Sixties there could develop a breakaway professional circuit in which the Big Three clubs from Calcutta and some other leading teams participate. This would lead to further divided loyalties and manipulations. Tournament committees will then have to pay even higher fees to attract the best teams. Instead of such a schism it would be better if the AIFF encouraged the systematic growth of

Money Is Mandatory Not Prestige

In early February, when the Rovers Cup was reaching its final stages, the quarter-final league phase of the Nai Dunia tournament started at Indore. The tournament is just nine years old, whereas the Rovers Cup is to celebrate its centenary next year. Yet from Feb. 8 onwards both Mohammedan SC and Mohun Bagan participated in the quarter-final league phase of the unheralded Nai Dunia tournament. The reason was that the organisers gave both the glamour clubs Rs. 1 lakh each, as participation fee besides other expenses and perks.

Both the clubs fared badly there, getting eliminated in the quarter-final league stage. The Nai Dunia organisers expressed annoyance that Mohammedans came with a makeshift team. There was no Emeka and no Chibuzor. Tournament secretary Srivastava said "From next year payment to the top Calcutta clubs will be according to the players they bring."

Tournament committees are willing to pay appearance money but they want a professional approach from the Calcutta clubs also. The Sait Nagjee tournament in Calicut in January paid Mohun Bagan Rs 1 lakh to participate. Dissensions and factionalism led to Mohun Bagan sending a weak team and getting beaten 0-1 by the Indian junior team. The Calcutta clubs should also reciprocate and not "kill the goose that lays the golden egg."

Learning from past experience, the Nizam Gold Cup authorities approached Mohammedan SC with an innovative and new offer. Mr. Rangarappa secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Football Association, said they paid Mohammedan SC Rs 1 lakh, with an incentive to Emeka of Rs. 5,000 per match. Thus for the first time a player in India was paid an appearance fee in a domestic tournament.

It is a sign of the times and the new order emerging that tournament committees have acknowledged the crowd-pulling power of certain charismatic players. Yet another indication of market forces in operation. The super star draws the crowd and the organisers are willing to pay extra to Chima or Emeka to ensure they play well. It suits the clubs as they do not have to pay bonus to Chima or Emeka to appear in a particular tournament. Thus the Nizam Gold Cup has set a trend which could have far reaching implications in Indian football.

From payment of superstars to sponsorship of teams or players is a short step. Liverpool are sponsored by CANDY and Manchester United by SHARP, Juventus by Ariston and Arsenal by JUC. Within this decade, the Big Three should be wearing logos or names of a private sponsor. East Bengal asked a foreign-based supporter to pay foreign exchange to Argentinian midfielder Julian Camino, who played for them from June to December 1988. Mohammedans are thinking of seeking financial sponsorship from rich businessmen to secure the services of Iranian strikers Moghadem Amir Hashemi Yekkeh Morteza who excelled for Esteghlal club in the 1989 DCM tournament.

professional clubs in India. After all experienced administrator Peter Vellapan, secretary of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), remarked on a visit to India last year that "club football at a professional level is the only way to

improve national standards, as the players learn how to fight for two points every week. Thus both mental toughness and professional skills increase." Wise words. Nascent professionalism has begun in Indian football

with increased prize and appearance money. Time will tell if it will lead to genuine professionalism, re-structuring of our top clubs and improvement of standards or mere skullduggery and financial imbroglios. **NOVY KAPADIA**

SENIOR DIVISION
SOCCER
LEAGUE-GROUP A

East Bengal's Discomfiture Is Over

THE suspense is finally over. The clue to this was found after 180 days when

East Bengal resumed their remaining 1989 Group A Senior Division League matches. The suspension of the last

few ties in this group was due to the imbroglio between the State Sports Minister Subhas Chakraborty and IFA secretary Prodyut Dutta.



Disputed goal: Mohun Bagan claimed that it was a genuine one but referee Bramachari disallows it in the last group A league tie against champions East Bengal.



Satish Kumar

over the staging of "exhibition matches" at the Salt Lake Stadium

Both were arrogant Stubborn Fortunately, good sense prevailed and the 1989 Group A matches were allowed to be completed

All this while, East Bengal, perched high on the group league table, were mildly unsure about whether they would be declared the league champions because of this tangle But their 10 point lead

over Mohun Bagan was at least a little reassuring For even if they lost their three remaining matches Bagan couldn't have become champions

Mohammedan SC had already lost the race with 49 points

East Bengal has had a comparatively good season They won the Durand Cup at Delhi and became the zonal champions in the recent Federation Cup at Sibsagar They had also

defeated arch rivals Bagan in three consecutive meetings A rare case But in their final meeting in the ultimate league match Bagan scored a late goal via Sukhen Sengupta to neutralise Kuljit Singh's first-half attempt

At one stage, it seemed that the Group A league wouldn't have culminated, when Mohammedan Sporting withdrew on the ground of non-availability of their regular

players—some of whom felt homesick and some who were away on bank assignments The IFA merely asked the club to give an explanation for skipping the league But Mohammedan SC were 'prepared' to play in the Nizam Gold Cup at Hyderabad and the clearance was given by Prodyut Dutta much before the resumption of the group ties Perhaps Mohd Sporting were not 'mentally' prepared to face East Bengal yet the club was prepared to play at Hyderabad because the money was there And since the team was popular with the Hyderabadis they believed they had a commitment to play However, this made things far more easier for East Bengal

It was just a mere formality that East Bengal went through There was no charm left And the disenchanted enthusiasts stayed away Their performance was lackadaisical and purposeless Against Eastern Railway it was only after a dose of coach PK Banerjee's vocal tonic that East Bengal scored thrice after the break Kuljit

Singh converted a penalty and scored the third created by Chima Okerie, who incidentally scored the second It was Chima again who rescued his team against Railway FC The match could have ended in a draw had Swarup Das not made a fine save on the goalline

The focus was on the big match—the last against Bagan But it was almost farcical Barren stands, no Doordarshan coverage Not even a ball boy was present It was an ordinary affair, but it fortunately did have some of the ingredients of tension and tantrums And all the fireworks were dished out after the interval

The Chima phobia had already engulfed the Bagan players He was a terror and Bagan vowed to keep strict vigil on him Chima realised it and so he played a little deep Krishanu Dey wasn't of much help to the Nigerian due to a swollen right leg But his presence to a certain extent had a psychological bearing on the team

Kuljit Singh's good work came to nought because of some needless momentary belligerence When Bagan gained ground the East Bengal striker maliciously and unnecessarily punched Bagan's coach-cum-player Subrata Bhattacharjee Referee Amarendranath Bramachari immediately gave Kuljit marching orders—a fine way for him to finish the 1989 league But that incident seemed minor, for East Bengal was in a celebrant mood ●

FINAL TABLE (GROUP—A)

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
East Bengal	28	24	2	2	57	6	74
Mohun Bagan	28	19	7	2	33	5	64
Mohammedan SC	28	14	7	7	27	8	49
Railway FC	28	10	12	6	13	10	42
E. Railway	28	10	12	6	14	13	42
Kumartuli	28	9	13	6	15	16	40
Cal. Port Trust	28	9	12	7	16	16	39
BNR	28	8	14	6	18	14	38
Police AC	28	6	12	10	15	21	30
Tolly Agragami	28	6	12	10	14	21	30
Aryan	28	6	9	13	10	21	27
Milan Samity	28	4	10	14	8	29	22
George Telegraph	28	3	11	14	7	24	20
Sonali Shibir	28	4	8	16	4	27	20
Wari AC	28	3	9	16	5	25	18

Champion: East Bengal Runners: Mohun Bagan
Top 10 teams will play in the 1990 Super Division League.

LEADING SCORERS

Chima Okerie (East Bengal)=17 goals (top-scorer); Sanku Ghosh (Mohun Bagan) and Kuljit Singh (East Bengal)=10 goals (Jt. 2nd top-scorer); Chikudor (Md Sporting)=9 goals; Ranjit Saha (East Bengal)=8 goals; Sandip Munshi (East Bengal)=7 goals; Subrata Roy (Police)=6 goals; Bikash Panji (East Bengal), Hiralal Das (Port Trust) and Sukhen Sen Gupta (Mohun Bagan)=5 goals each

Note—As Mohammedan Sporting did not field their side against East Bengal in both 1st and return league and against Mohun Bagan in return league matches, IFA League Sub-Committee will deduct their 6 points as per rule in these matches.

It will then, Md Sporting's position in the League Table will remain unchanged.

Compiled by Subrata Bhattacharjee

• **How Sunil Gavaskar worshipped Dara Singh and King Kong!**

• **How India was 0 for 4 wickets in a Test match!**

• **How wicketkeeper Godfrey Evans stood up to the bowling of Alec Bedser!**

• **How Len Hutton spoke only four words in four innings!**

• **How the Indian player got only Rs 60 for a Test match!**

MADHAV MANTRI, INDIAN TEST CRICKETER OF THE FIFTIES, TELLS V. GANGADHAR

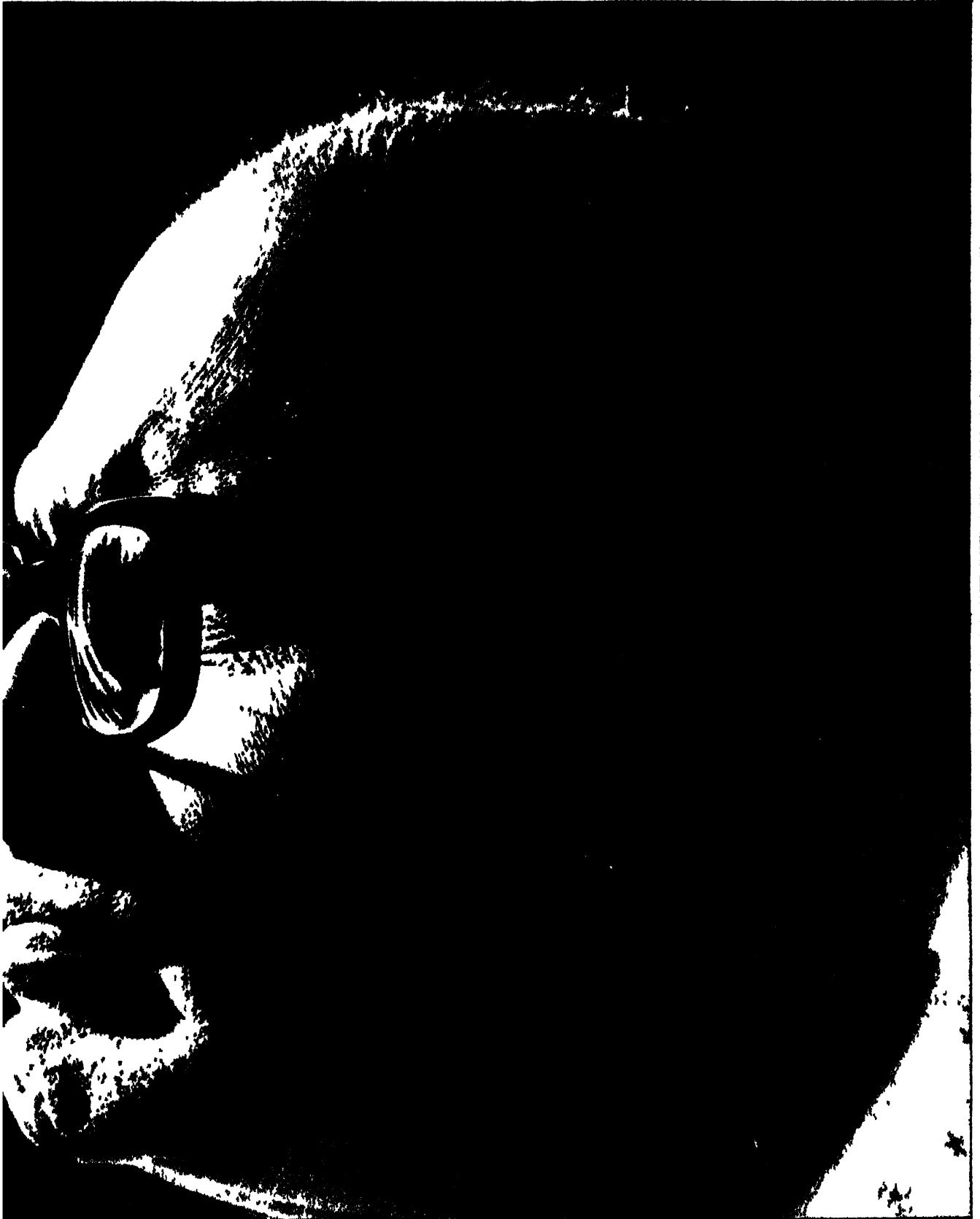
SPORTSWORLD: Did you come from a cricketing family?

MADHAV MANTRI No one in the family played the game. My father, a special Literacy officer with the state, was interested in the game. That's all. When did you start playing? I began playing for King George High School, Bombay. I was an off-break bowler and a lower-order batsman. The wicketkeeping came later. When? At Sangh Willingdon

College where I was a student. The team needed a 'keeper, I tried once and did well. So I became a regular. In those days, it was always assumed that the 'keeper should open the innings. Navle, Hindlekar, Dilawar Hussein did so at the higher levels of the game. I began opening too and did quite well.

If Godfrey Evans had played in India on those days, he would not have become Godfrey Evans!

Later, I captained Bombay University and also led the All-India Universities against Lindsay Hassett's Australian Services XI. You represented Bombay and Maharashtra. How did that happen? I made my Bombay debut in 1941-42. Next year, due to the 'Quit India' movement, Bombay did not participate in the Ranji Trophy. Since I had been born in Nasik, Maharashtra invited me to play for them on birth qualification. But just



for one year. Then I returned to Bombay. Which was your first match for Bombay? At Lahore in 1941-42 season against Northern India Cricket Association (NICA). The regular keepers were not available and I got a chance. I kept to J Khot Bhalerao, Madan Raiji and K K Tarapore. Got nine victims, eight caught and one stumped. It was a record as well.

When were you first considered for national selection?

There was no international cricket from 1939 to 1945

Hutton merely said 'That's a wrong 'un' during the four innings I kept behind him!

because of the War. But the Pentagurals were on. I played for the Hindus. It was almost the national side, so strong were we. I am amazed at the choice of some of the wicketkeepers in those days. Abdul Aziz, S.V.T. Chari, M.O. Srinivasan, T.V. Parthasarathi. Then there was this bloke J.K. Irani, who went to Australia in 1947-48. And someone called E.S. Maska. Didn't he tour the West Indies in 1953-54?

I agree. Wicketkeeping was some kind of musical chairs and sometimes the wicketkeeper was changed for every Test. Anyone, who made one or two catches in front of a selector, was in. Just before the Australian trip in a minor match, Irani stood up to a pace

ZERO FOR FOUR WICKETS!

Let's come to Leeds, 1952. The famous 0 for 4 situation. How did it happen? Was anything wrong with the wicket?

No, no. Just bad strokes. Roy went for a hook, Dattaji Gafkwad chased one from Alec Hedder. Manjrekar went for a drive against Trueman, I was out to a ball which came in sharply. It was a combination of good bowling and some poor strokes.

How good was Trueman?

In the first innings he had bowled all over the place and we had no problems with him. There was even talk that Brian Statham would replace him for the next Test. But then came the 0 for 4 situation and he also ran through us at Manchester. But most of his success was because of Hutton, another Yorkshireman as captain. He instructed Trueman where to pitch the ball exactly and how to bowl to his field. Very shrewd captaincy.

Was Trueman the fastest bowler you have faced?

No. At Northampton, Frank Tyson, who looked anything but a pace bowler, bowled one terrifying over. It was the end of the play, there was time for just one over and Tyson let himself go. I managed to take a single of the first ball and watched the rest from the bowler's end. Poor Pankaj Roy had no clue whatsoever, as they whizzed by him. He touched the last ball and was caught behind. It was fearsome, I tell you. And then at Cambridge, we faced that strong, muscular South African, Cuan McCarthy, who was very quick. But he chucked.

Poor Pankaj Roy had no clue whatsoever, as they whizzed by him.

Several untid remarks have been made about Polly Umrigar's batting in the 1952 Tests; about how he 'ran away' towards square leg while facing Trueman. Even his skipper Hazare has mentioned this in his book 'A Long Innings.'

I can't speak for Hazare but these remarks are not true. It was partly the British media's build-up of Trueman. You see, most of the balls used to kick up from just short of good length and with eight close-in fielders breathing down your neck, you ended up giving catches. Umrigar, like Bradman did to Larwood, tried something different, moving towards square leg and trying to glide the ball over the slip's heads. When the ball did not rise and came straight through he was bowled. But there was no question of running away. It was a kind of improvisation which did not work out. Mind you, the same Umrigar hit the West Indian pacemen, including the great Wesley Hall, all over the place later in his career.

bowler and held two catches. And found himself on the party to Australia. The same with the case of Maska. As far as the selection of wicketkeepers was concerned, would you agree that the selectors were a bunch of jokers?

(Laughs) You see, the selectors did not understand the special problem of wicketkeepers. He was expected to catch anything that came near him. One miss and he was out replaced by someone. If Godfrey Evans had played in India in those days, he would have suffered the same fate. He would not have become the Godfrey Evans he was. When I became a national selector in the 1960's, I tried to change all this. For the first time, there was some continuity in the 'keeper's position. In my playing days I had to battle it out with Sen Joshi, Rajendranath, Maska and then Tamhane.

You played against Len Hutton and Denis Compton. How would you compare them?

Hutton's technique, concentration and patience were flawless. He never hooked but played the most glorious cover drive in the game, placing it so well that our specialist cover fieldsman Adhikari had no chance at all. His concentration was such that he just spoke four words to me during the four innings I kept for him. That was when he played a googly from Shinde. Turning to me he said, 'That's a wrong 'un'. Compton played only two Tests against us. Told the selectors he was not in good form.

and asked them not to consider him for the other two. And they did not drop him for that. He was a great improviser, sweeping from the middle stump, running up the pitch and lofting pace bowlers! You also went to Pakistan in 1953-54 where all the Test matches were drawn. Why? They were four-day Test matches. The pitches were flat, both the sides did not want to lose though we almost won at Peshawar. Had we played for five days, perhaps...

How would you rate your Indian contemporaries? Tamhane was the best. He was very consistent and handled Gupte well. That was the ultimate test for an Indian 'keeper. Merchant once said that Tamhane was as sound as the Bank of England. Joshi was good, but had problems with Gupte. Sen kept well to Mankad but that was easier than keeping to Gupte.

And the best-ever of your times?

Godfrey Evans! No doubt about that. He was always in position and so quick! It takes special skill and guts to stand up to someone like Bedser. Once, he stumped Mankad off Bedser. It was all so quick that the umpire failed to spot it and declared Vinoo not out! Tell me something about the basic differences in 'keeping of your days and the present.

I think we had more anticipation. If we spotted an inswinger on the middle-and-leg, we were quite quickly in position anticipating the leg glance. The modern keeper tends to dive more, be it towards

the slips or fine leg. Perhaps he is more athletic. Secondly, we stood up to medium-pacers once the shine was off. Today, they stand far back even to someone like Mohinder Amarnath. Also, we would never think of running towards the umpire with the ball held aloft,

would be your choices? Vinoo was the greatest left-arm spinner of his time. Spin, flight, cunning, there was none to match him. Ghulam Ahmed was in the class of Laker and Tayfield of South Africa. But he was a bit too easygoing. We used to call him the 'Nizam of Hyderabad'. If only he had been a bit



"The wicketkeeper made one miss in those days," says Mantri, "and he was out."

appealing. The keepers of our generation, barring exceptions like Evans, were quite unobtrusive. Not showy at all. You kept wickets to some of our best spinners. If you had to choose just two of them for an India team, who

totally wrong. They knew, as the leading batsmen, they had to dig in, stay there and score runs. The rest of the batting was brittle and fell apart when they failed. It's difficult to rank them. Hazare had more strokes, but I would put Merchant slightly ahead. Mind you, only slightly because he was an opener and had a more difficult task. Did the Indian teams of your time have an inferiority complex? I mean, a feeling they can never win against England and Australia. There were so few victories and so many drawn matches.

I suppose we had an inferiority complex in those days. We seldom played to our full potential.

I suppose so. We seldom played to our full potential. But don't forget, the opposition, particularly England and Australia, were very strong. Bradman, Morris, Lindwall, Miller as well as Hutton, Compton, Bedser and so on. Compare them with the present English side!

How much were you paid for representing the country in those days?

(Laughs) I think we got about Rs 2500 for the five-month tour of England in 1952. The daily allowance was £ one! Even at home, we travelled by train and were put up at ordinary hotels. The visitors always stayed in better hotels. And I think we were paid about Rs 60 as

more competitive, he would have been the world's number one off spinner. As for the two spinners, I would select Mankad and Subash Gupte. With normal fielding support, they could bowl out any side. It is often said that Hazare and Mankad batted more for averages than for their sides' interest. Who was the better batsman of the two? Your first statement is

MADHAV MANTRI ON SUNIL GAVASKAR

A proud uncle on his famous nephew

Did you ever influence him in any way? coach him?
No coaching. As for influencing, I don't know. At Australia during 1977-78, after scoring three Test centuries in a row, he was asked by commentator Ian Chappell from whom he had inherited this century habit. The same question was posed by C.D. Gopinath, after Sunil posted a double century against the West Indians at Madras in 1983-84. On both the occasions, Sunil's reply was 'Uncle Mantri.'

So you did exert an influence on him?
It was like this. Once during a schools' tournament, Bombay had piled up about 400 runs for one wicket and Sunil had scored 200 of these. "Who got out?" I asked him at the end of the day's play. "I", he replied "200 was quite enough and I got out." I told him it was not the right attitude to success. "Never give away your wicket." I told him. "Your duty is to stay there and score runs. Let the bowler, if he is good enough, take your wicket." Later, after scoring 300 in a local match, he let a ball pass outside his off stump. "Imagine doing that with 300 runs against his name," one of my friends exclaimed. But I was happy. He had not forgotten my advice.

Was he attached to you as a youngster?

Was and is. Used to come here most of the weekends, gaze at my various caps, blazers. Once asked for one of my caps. I told him these had been earned by the sweat of the brow, and

if he wanted them, he should also work and earn them. Went away quietly. When he got his cap from St. Xavier's College, he came home and told me, "Uncle, I've earned my first cap."

Did he hero-worship you?

(Laughs) Oh no! Jaismha was his hero. And freestyle wrestlers like Dara Singh and King Kong. He used to collect their pictures.

As Gavaskar grew up, did he ever consult you on batting technique?

I don't think so. Once, along with a friend of mine who did not know about our relationship,

Sunil confessed that he had picked up the century habit from me!

I was watching Sunil bat in a local match. He executed a square cut and my friend exclaimed, 'Hey, that's just like how you play the stroke.' Watching me, he may have unknowingly picked up something, here and there.

Can you compare Gavaskar with Vijay Merchant?

Rather difficult because conditions differed so much then and now. Merchant was a better judge of the moving ball. He was seldom beaten by the outswinger, even in English conditions. Sunil was slightly vulnerable in this area. But he was a much better stroke-player.

pocket expenses for a Test match. Even the captain got the same. He got a single room, though. But we never thought we should demand more. Playing for the country itself was quite enough. **Did you have fitness or conditioning camps in those days?**

I attended just one camp, prior to the visit of the English team in 1951-52. The senior players resented the idea. I found some of the exercises useful, and continued to do them for many more years. Our batting and bowling were as good as today's, but the fielding was

shoddy because of a lack of fitness. We used to drop almost every batsmen who scored heavily against us. **Was it easier for a player from Bombay to get into the**

Ghulam Ahmed was in the class of Laker and Tayfield. But he was a bit too easygoing. We used to call him the 'Nizam of Hyderabad'.

national side?

I think so. Players from Bombay and Maharashtra were projected much better by the local media. Some of our colleagues were quite envious of us. I guess the media coverage helped. You retired in 1957. Any regrets? Can you recall some highlights of your career?

Absolutely no regrets. I enjoyed my cricket, continued to play club cricket till I was 60. I never expected to go so far. One moment I would not forget is my Ranji debut at Lahore when I bagged nine victims. Some of the spectators

who supported the local team were enraged and shouted 'You Public enemy number one!' Our captain Merchant used to quote this often.

And at Lord's in 1952, Mankad bowled a floater to Peter May, the best post-War English batsman. He glanced it. I had anticipated the stroke, moved towards fine leg and caught him. Frank Chester, the greatest of the umpires, who was officiating at square leg, complimented me saying it was one of the best catches we had ever seen. Coming from Chester, it was quite a morale booster.

FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

SECTION I: ETIQUETTE

PLAYERS SEARCHING FOR A BALL SHOULD SIGNAL THE PLAYERS BEHIND THEM TO PASS AS SOON AS IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT THE BALL WILL NOT EASILY BE FOUND



LEASE

RULE 1-2: EXERTING INFLUENCE ON THE BALL

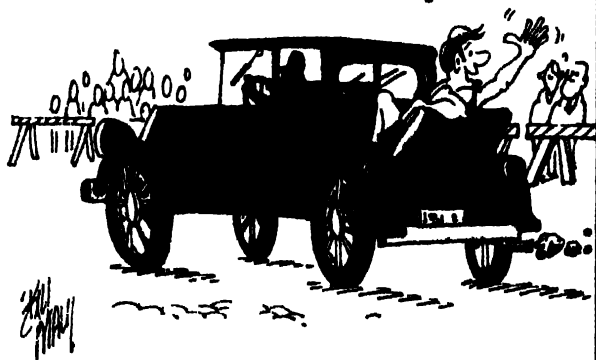
NO PLAYER OR CADDIE SHALL TAKE ANY ACTION TO INFLUENCE THE POSITION OR THE MOVEMENT OF A BALL EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES



LEASE

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME

BY NASH & ZULLO



FRED LORZ OF NEW YORK WAS HAILED AS THE WINNER OF THE 1904 OLYMPIC MARATHON UNTIL OFFICIALS DISCOVERED THAT FRED HAD CONSERVED HIS ENERGY BY RIDING IN A CAR FOR 11 MILES OF THE RACE! EVEN THOUGH HE RAN THE FINAL FIVE MILES TO "VICTORY," THERE WAS NO GOLD MEDAL FOR LORZ...HE WAS DOQED.

4/11

AMONG THE MANY UNSETTLING LOCAL RULES AT THE ELEPHANT HILLS COUNTRY CLUB IN VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE, AFRICA:



• IF A BALL COMES TO REST WITHIN A TAIL'S DISTANCE OF A SLEEPING BUFFALO, IT MAY BE REMOVED AND DROPPED NO NEARER THE HOLE WITHOUT PENALTY. MORE THAN A TAIL'S LENGTH, THE BALL SHALL BE PLAYED AS IT LIES.

4/14

PREVIEW

NATIONAL EVENTS

Football: 14th Federation Cup tournament at Trichur, from April 10 to 27. Prize money worth Rs. 2.80 lakhs.

3rd mini Federation Cup at Trichur from April 18 to 25. **5th All Airlines Gold cup** tournament at Calcutta, from March 31 to April 10.

Archery: Federation Cup, international tournament at Delhi, from April 16-20.

Chess: Nachimuthu Gounder Rukmani Ammul 3rd national boys and girls championships in Pollachi, Coimbatore from April 30 to May 6. Four categories for boys and girls under 8, 10, 12 and 14 years.

Golf: Addi Cup Open at Delhi Golf Club from April 3 to 6. Prize money worth Rs. 50,000.

IMA—ONGC invitational at Frima golf club, Dehra Dun. Prize money worth Rs 2,00,000.

Udhampur Open at Chinar Golf club, Udhampur from April 19-22. Prize money worth Rs. 60,000.

Racing: Nilgiris Fillies Trial Stakes at Ooty on April 22. Nilgiris Colt Trial at Ooty on April 29.

Squash: Clash of Titans series, promoted by Radiant, Jehangir Khan vs Chris Dittmar on April 3, 4 and 5 at Bombay and Indore.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

Cricket: Australasia Cup at Sharjah from April 25 to May 4. Australia, New Zealand and Bangladesh are in Group A and India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Group B. Detailed itinerary of April:

April 25: India vs Sri Lanka.
April 26: Australia vs New Zealand.

April 27: India vs Pakistan
April 28: Bangladesh vs New Zealand

April 29: Pakistan vs Sri Lanka

April 30: Australia vs Bangladesh. Finals on May 4. England's tour of West Indies.

April 3: vs West Indies, 5th one day international at Bridgetown, Barbados.

April 5-10: vs West Indies, 4th Test at Barbados.

April 12-17: vs West Indies, 5th Test at St Johns Antigua

Athletics: London Marathon on April 22.

Badminton: European championships at Moscow, from April 8 to 14.

Cycling: Paris to Roubaix world cup series April 8.

Northern Ireland Milk Race, from Belfast to Bangor from April 12 to 16.

Liege-Bastogne-Liege, world cup series on April 15.

Amstel Gold Cup, world cup series at Holland on April 21.

Tour of Spain starts at Benicasim on April 24 and finishes at Madrid on May 5.

Golf: US Masters at Augusta, from April 5 to 8.

Jersey Open, La Moya from April 5 to 8.

Hittlesburg Classic at Mississippi from April 5 to 8.

Heritage Classic at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, USA from April 12 to 15.

Madrid Open from Apr. 19 to 22.

Greater Greensboro Open

Greensboro, North Carolina from April 19 to 22. Spanish Open at Madrid from April 26 to 29.

New Orleans Classic at Louisiana, USA from April 26 to 29.

Horse Racing: Grand National at Aintree, on April 7.

Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse on April 16.

Ladbroke European Free Handicap at Newmarket on April 18.

Motor Cycling: US Grand prix at Laguna Seca, California on April 8.

Brazilian Grand prix at Rio de Janeiro on April 22

Motor Rallying: Safari Rally, world championship round, at Kenya from April 12 to 16.

Snooker: Embassy World Professional championships at Sheffield, England from April 13 to 29.

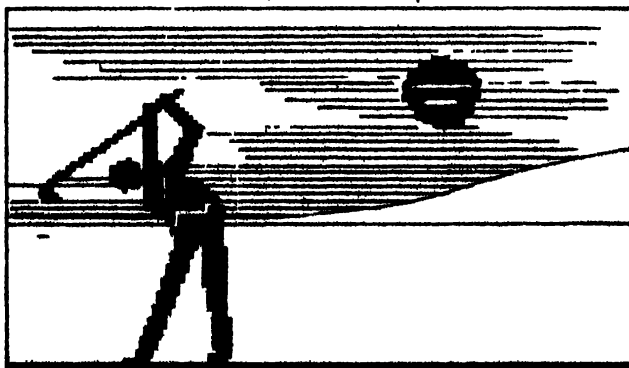
Squash: Hi Tec British open championships at Wembley Conference Centre, from April 14 to 23. Paris open from April 28 to May 2.

Table Tennis: European championships at Gothenburg from April 8 to 16.

Tennis: Volvo open at Monte Carlo from April 23 to 29.

WCT Doubles Invitational championships at Dallas, USA from April 18 to 22.

Japanes Open at Tokyo, from April 9 to 15.



Volleyball: Nations Cup for men at Luxembourg on April 7 and 8.

World League 1990, Brazil vs Italy at Belo Horizonte on April 27, USSR vs Holland at Moscow on April 27, USA vs France at Los Angeles on April 29, Brazil vs Italy at Brasilia on April 29, USSR vs Holland at Moscow on April 29, and USA vs France at Los Angeles on April 30.

African club championship at Kenya from March 25 to April 6.

South American clubs cup at San Juan, Argentina, from April 9 to 15.

Football: European Cup, Cup Winners Cup and UEFA Cup semi finals first leg matches on April 4 and 2nd legs on April 18

F.A. Cup semi finals, Liverpool vs Crystal Palace and Manchester United vs Oldham Athletic, on April 7

Scottish Cup semi finals on April 14

England vs Czechoslovakia at Wembley on April 25, Scotland vs Wales at Hampden Park on April 25. Littlewoods Cup final at Wembley Nottingham Forest vs Oldham Athletic on April 29.

TELEVISION: Live telecast of India's matches in Australasia Cup at Sharjah, on April 25 and 27.

Live telecast of final of Airlines Gold Cup at Calcutta on April 10 and final of Federation Cup football final on April 27.

Live telecast of Clash of Titans series, Jehangir Khan vs Chris Dittmar on April 3, 4 and 5.

RADIO: Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Federation Cup at Trichur, on April 24, 25 and 27

Running commentary in Hindi, English and Bengali on final of Airlines Gold Cup in Calcutta on April 10.

Compiled by Navy Kapadia

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



A foreign jockey's son studies the form book while papa makes a guest appearance at the RCTC during the Invitation weekend. Most punters will disagree that picking the winner is mere child's play. You gotta be kidding.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

"There is something very blunt, very harsh about defeat"

The Indian cricket captain speaks about his first venture as skipper

MOHAMMAD ASHARUDDIN, the Indian captain, does not have the worry beads out. He is back home in Hyderabad the frustration and disappointment of the New Zealand tour behind him. India under Asharuddin, in his first series as captain, lost the three-Test series 1-0 and failed to qualify for the final of the triangular one-day series.

But Asharuddin is emphatic that he and his young team learned several valuable lessons on the tour. "There is something very blunt, very harsh about defeat, but one has to learn to accept the fact that every match cannot be won. One also has to try and learn from setbacks like this," he said.


"The tour wasn't bad, because I have learnt a great deal about the art of captaincy. It is amazing that the job of a captain in a Test match is so radically different from the job of a captain in a one-day side. The two forms of the game are so

distant that the question of leadership in a limited-overs match is a completely different challenge altogether.

"There you are, trying to place a field, forming a strategy to get the opposing batsmen out, trying to probe their weaknesses, switch your bowlers, calculate scoring rates and figure out how many overs each of your bowlers has left. The fact that you have to do all that at the same time gives you no respite. You have to function like a calculator and encyclopaedia simultaneously. Nonetheless, the Indian captain relishes the task. He is also thriving on the challenge of rebuilding the Indian side.

"I'm quite a blunt guy," says Asharuddin. "So when I have to tell a player what I think of him, I don't beat around the bush. It's the sort of approach that can be misconstrued, but the guys on this tour have been very receptive to whatever I have said. They have been very supportive."

Asharuddin was not the only



straight talker in the Indian dressing room. Manager Bishen Bedi, a former captain himself, has never been renowned for biting his lip. When India caved in to lose a close one day match against Australia on Saturday 3 March, Bedi's condemnation was harsh.

"A few of our batsmen committed suicide out there today," he said. "And if they went to go out and commit suicide tonight, I am not going to stop them."

Bedi chuckled, unrepentant, when asked about the quote. "I'd say a few of the boys learnt an

"The tour wasn't bad, because I have learnt a great deal about the art of captaincy. It is amazing that the job of a captain in a Test match is so radically different from the job of a captain in a one-day side."

important cricket lesson that day that a game is never won until it is won."

Azharuddin is delighted to have a manager of Bedi's experience in his corner. "Bishen knows the game, he is astute, he has been a Test captain and a world-class player. He is the sort of manager for whom any captain would give his right arm. He is good for the team and he is a tremendous help to me. He helps take the pressure off me."

When Bedi led India in the late '70s, Azharuddin was still playing schoolyard cricket. Now, the batsman-captain and the wily former spinner have combined to bring about what they hope will be the revival of Indian cricket. And there won't be much talk of suicide, either.

Interviewed by David McMahon, Melbourne

INDIAN HOCKEY

SUJEET KUMAR was the youngest player in the Indian hockey team but announced his retirement recently. In an exclusive interview he exposes the IIF and the conditions under which our national players perform

“IT’S A DISGUSTING SITUATION”

JAGDISH YADAV



"I have quit professional hockey in utter disgust, totally disappointed with the attitude of the IHF," says former International left half Sujit Kumar, the most senior player of the Indian team that returned from Lahore after the World Cup drubbing.

The 27-year-old Indian Airlines player has represented the nation in 109 Internationals. The Vice-Captain of the Indian team at the moment of retirement, Sujit has played 15 major tournaments and wishes to continue in the game at present by playing for Indian Airlines and later by taking to coaching.

Sujit hits out vehemently at the shabby functioning of IHF. Excerpts from the interview:

SPORTSWORLD: What made you retire from international hockey at this juncture? Was it the country's debacle at the Lahore World Cup?

SUJIT KUMAR: I had made up my mind about quitting even before going to Lahore whether we lost or won. I could not have continued in the present circumstances anymore.

Circumstances like?
Lack of basic facilities. We are treated worse than our counterparts in other countries. No kit was provided to us. Only we know under what circumstances we have been playing for India. Our boys didn't have proper kit, shoes, even the shirts were patched and the numbers not legibly written. A few days before leaving for Lahore the IHF had received a special FIH notification to have the shirt numbers of the players written properly. It was a shame that we received that letter. The delegates and players, from other countries make fun of us. For Lahore too, we received our shoes just a few days before leaving and that too very substandard ones. The IHF was well aware that we were going for the World Cup one and a half years back and they should have made the arrangements accordingly, but everything is done just at the eleventh hour. I was very disillusioned with this attitude of IHF and had planned to retire from the game long ago if things didn't turn for the better. We can't perform in such circumstances.

Why didn't you protest earlier?

We did at every opportunity but to no avail. They kept pleading its the "prestige" of the country which is at stake 'we will sort out your problems later'. But all that just remained mere assurances. Never since the Olympics have we been given any equipment and facilities. In these conditions how do you expect us to perform well? In our country, like Pargat Singh said, the reward for playing well comes only after winning, but abroad they provide you with so



M.P. Ganesh: 'the best coach India has ever had'

much from the beginning that one is compelled to perform better.

Did your disillusionment extend to the coaching system and the long duration of camps?

No, not to the coaches. Perhaps they (Ganesh & M.K. Kaushik) are the best coaches an Indian team ever had. They have done their job to their best, but even they are helpless in certain cases. They just don't have that kind of power, because even they are ruled by a bunch of IHF officials.

But certainly most of us players are against the long duration camps. It's totally stagnating. You can't be at your peak after three months of rigorous training. I think it affects our game adversely.

So these are the reasons for our World Cup debacle?

Added to this, we also didn't play too well. Not up to

"We didn't have proper kit..."

even our shirts were patched"

R. Prasad: negligence

The blame for the downfall of hockey should squarely on the shoulders of the (IHF) officials



our expectations. There certainly was room for improvisation, but mentally too we were under considerable pressure: the security, the initial defeats all mounted on us and we could never get out of that tension. Our strategy was to win the first three matches and then plan further. We were one of the best sides and had even hoped to reach the semi-finals, but somehow things never went our way at Lahore.

What about the Players' Association? Is it something in regard to confronting the situation.

Certainly, we have formed the Association for the betterment of players and the game in general. There is no one to listen to our woes, everything is controlled at the highest level. We are just puppets playing as and when 'they' want. The blame for the downfall of the game and the dying popularity should lie on the shoulders of the officials. We would not like to confront them in the best interests of the game. But the Association would positively be the voice of the players and we hope to tackle the problems amicably in future.

In your decade-long career did you have any disappointment as such, professionally?

Yes, disappointments have certainly been there. For instance, I was included in the team for the 1983

tours of New Zealand, Australia and the Pentangular Tournament in Kuala Lumpur and just three days before the departure of the team I was dropped without any reason. Had I gone for the above tournaments I may have even played the '84 Olympics.

Then in 1982 Junior World Cup in Malaysia playing against Australia we were leading by one goal, but due to the controversial decisions of Spanish umpire we lost the match 1-2. And our officials could not even lodge a protest because the fee was an exorbitant US \$500, which we didn't have! That was a great disappointment for us; maybe, the decision would have been in our favour after the protest. That was very crucial because that victory would have ensured us a semifinal berth. If you get a call from the IHF to play for the country again will you oblige?

I am always at the service of the game in the interest of the nation. Hockey is everything to me. I may have retired from international hockey, but will continue playing for my employers Indian Airlines. I may consider making a comeback only if the required facilities are given, not on any compromises. I won't come back if the conditions do not improve. ●

Battered

SO, the Indian cricket team came back home from the New Zealand tour badly battered in the one-day series. The 1983 World Cup winners were reduced to ashes and the entire team looked a dejected lot.

Is Mr Raj Singh Dungarpur again re-thinking about rebuilding his side for the Nineties? I think it is high time that Srikanth and Ravi Shastri made a comeback. And I hope that Azhar is kept on as captain.
PRABAL GUHA,
Guwahati

Interesting

THE interview with Michael Chang's father, Joe (Sportsworld, 28th Feb) was interesting to read. It clearly showed that Michael is a serious as well as an interesting guy. They have managed to bring him up in the right way and we are glad to know that although he lives in the United States, he has not forgotten China.
GOLD,
Tuticorin

Not shocking

INDIA came last in the recently concluded World Cup in Pakistan. The outcome, although not shocking is difficult to digest. It is strange the way the standard of our hockey has come down.

It seems that we have to change our intrinsic way of playing hockey. Because the style we use is of no match to the other countries' power-packed game.

The exclusive interview with Pargat Singh (Sportsworld, 7th March) made me aware of the poor facilities provided to Indian hockey players. It is clear that we must change the system. We must improve our facilities. The need of the hour is to do something.
CHAYAN DASTIDAR,
Bombay

Marvellous

THANKS for the marvellous and exclusive interview with Imran Khan (Sportsworld, 14th March). From this interview, we know more about his retirement plans, his private life etc. Thanks to Mudar Patherya for taking this interview. The article on Marco Van Basten was brilliant too.
SWARUP KR DUTTA,
Tripura



Imran Khan

Again Imran on cover

YOU are crazy to have Imran Khan on the cover once again. There is no doubt that he is a good and charming cricketer. But that does not mean that you should put him on the cover on the smallest pretext. It is time to stop this Imran adulation.

We have already read about his personal likes and dislikes many times in the magazine. Remember that Sportsworld is a magazine for

many sports and not only for cricket.

SOUMIT DAS,
Balur Ghat

Thanks

THANKS for the karate column by Shivaji Ganguly. The colourful coverage of the Instructors Camp (Sportsworld, 7th March) was marvellous. My congratulations to the participants who completed the camp successfully.
HEMANT CHOPRA,
Calcutta

Not unexpected

THE performance of the Indian hockey team in the Lahore World Cup was not unexpected. The defensive mould into which Ganesh has cast the Indian team has struck a blow to its morale.

The half hearted interceptions of the defence when dealing with the marauding Aussie and Dutch forwards was clearly evident.

Why did the boys not intercept at the start itself even at the risk of fouls? Why did the Indian forwards not put pressure on the opposition defence when the latter was taking the penalty corners?

Frankly speaking we Indians gave up easily.
KASKAK DHAK,
Bangalore

Kerala are champions

THE recently concluded National School Games at Trivandrum proved the supremacy of the Kerala athletes at the school level. And there are plenty of athletes who will slip easily into the shoes of Usha Shiny and the others.

Perhaps the only drawback is the lack of facilities. I hope the Sports Authority of India does provide these necessary facilities so that the athletes can blossom and bring glory to India.
LALU,
Trivandrum

CALCUTTA

Double Wicket Cricket

ARUN LAL and Gautam Shome (Junior) lifted the M N Dastur double wicket cricket championship title by a whisker. The UBI 'B' team defeated the 'A' team pair of Gautam Shome (Senior) and Ajay Verma by the slenderest of margins in a thrilling final.

Twenty one pairs took part in the third edition of the championship held at the Kalighat ground. With failing light reducing the final to a four overs-a-side affair, Verma and Shome (SR) hit up 30 runs in their quota of overs. Chasing an asking rate of 7.75 to achieve victory, Lal and Shome (JR) achieved the target with three balls to spare.

UBI 'B' made the title round by getting the better of the FCI 'A' team of Sumit Shome and Arun Banerjee by two runs (29-27). FCI 'B' lost to UBI 'A' by four runs (19-23) in the other semi-final.

Rajib Sen was adjudged the best fielder of the tournament, while Saurab Dutta was second best. Sen got an award of Rs 300 for his effort. Dutta got Rs 200.

Inter-school cricket

KAMAL DAS turned in a fine all-round performance to propel Shyambazar AV to the under-17 CAB inter-school championship title.

In a final where bowlers and batsmen shared honours equally, Shyambazar AV put Hindu School in to bat and got them all out for 219. Crucial contributions came from D. Mitra (39), Banibrata Ghosh (35) and S. Das who missed his half century by a couple of runs. While B. Chandra bagged two for 37, Das got 2 for 32.

Krishnendu Paul gave Shyambazar AV a rousing start, as they cruised merrily against the Hindu School attack. Shyambazar eventually got to the



Gautam Shome and Arun Lal : the winners

victory target with five wickets to spare as Paul hit a fine 62 while Das hammered a quick 57 and Sibaji Mullick hit 37. D. Mukherjee was the lone Hindu bowler to shine with two for 35.

Eastern Command Naval Golf

THE four-day Eastern Command Naval golf championship generated the usual fun and frolic amidst some keen competition. Commodore K. S. Brar finished as the overall champion getting the better of Commodore V. K. Chaudhary who had earlier won the individual Stableford competition handsomely.

Eastern Naval Command lifted the best net team event title while Delhi beat Visakhapatnam in a friendly game.

The real interest centred around the main 36-hole competition at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club course. Chaudhary and Brar shared the top spot after the first round with gross scores of 89 each. But, Chaudhary proved superior in the next round to leave Brar far behind. **Sumitra Bose**

RANCHI

Inter-school cricket

CENTRAL SCHOOL, Hinoo clinched the Indira Gandhi memorial cricket trophy when they upset defending champions, Zila School, by 59 runs. Central School, having won the toss, decided to bat first and scored 193 runs in 35 overs. In reply, Zila School collapsed all out for 134 runs to give Central School their seventh victory in this tournament.

Earlier, in the semi-finals, Zila School defeated St. Aloysius High School by seven wickets while Central School defeated Government High School by 59 runs.

Anil Kumar Singh

MANGALORE

State Weightlifting

JANARDHANA GOWDA of South Kanara created a new state record with a lift of 122.5 kg (OR 121.5) clean and jerk in the 56 kg category at the state-level weightlifting competition held here early this month. He was

declared the best lifter of the meet which was organised by the District Youth Services and Sports Board and Karnataka State Sports Council

In the women's section, Sudha Prabhu emerged the best lifter in the 48 kg category with a lift of 77.5 kg, snatch and jerk. South Kanara district scored a double winning both the men's and women's team championships with a final tally of 768 and 240 points respectively. Chitradurga district finished runners up with 293 and 118 points.

Michael R. Patrao.

MADRAS

Electricity Board Basketball

WITH a sterling performance, Tamil Nadu defeated holders and oft crowned champions Punjab to win the All India Electricity Board Basketball Tournament in the city in the first week of March. Punjab, with three internationals in their ranks, were favourites at the start of the four day meet to win the trophy for the eighth successive year. But displaying commendable fighting qualities, the hosts defeated their highly reputed opponents 58-38 in the final to regain the trophy after eight years.

Six teams participated in the league cum knock out competition. While Punjab, Kerala and Haryana were placed in pool 'A', Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) comprised Group 'B'.

Punjab topping the pool and Kerala finishing second qualified for the semi finals from Pool 'A' while Tamil Nadu and BBMB similarly qualified from Pool 'B'. In the semi finals while Punjab prevailed over BBMB 75-48, Tamil Nadu edged out Kerala 80-79 after a thrilling duel. The match was marred by poor supervision which resulted in frequent quarrels between the players and the referees and led to the crowd

A SPORTS MEET WITH MORE EVENTS THAN THE OLYMPICS.

THE SPORTSWORLD

Prelims April 5-6 Finals April 7 at 6 p.m.

Venue: Dalhousie Institute, 42 Jhowtalla Road, Calcutta - 19

ROUND TABLE QUIZ

Quizmasters: Tiger Pataudi, Neil O'Brien and others

FOR THE DUNLOP

No entrance fee or admit cards required

Organised by Calcutta Central Round Table 38

SPECTRA-WIDE TROPHY

Sportsworld

Spectra



entering the court towards the closing stages of the game

In the final, the Tamil Nadu defence did a fine job in bottling up the three Punjab internationals—Kuldeep Singh, Amritpal Singh and Paramjit Singh. And Senthilvel and Veeraraghavan for their part basketted effortlessly as Tamil Nadu swept to a comfortable title triumph. Kerala took third place defeating BBMB 94-59.

Partab Ramchand

INDORE

Nai Dunia Football

THE ninth Nai Dunia football tournament was held at Indore recently. In the final, Border Security Force beat JCT, Phagwara, 2-1. Earlier, in the semi-finals, BSF got past Punjab

BSF skipper Narender Gurung with the Nai Dunia Trophy



INDORE

Bidasariya Trophy

The Indore divisional commissioner S.K. Sood presenting the Bidasariya Trophy to Sandeep Patil, the captain of Sungrace (Mafatia) of Bombay. They beat Tata Sports Club by 7 wickets in the final.

Police 3-1 in the tie breaker after both the teams were locked in a goalless draw even after extra time. In the other semi-finals, JCT, Phagwara beat CRPF 1-0.

The final between BSF and JCT, Phagwara was a fast-paced one with both teams attacking from the right wing. The main schemer for BSF was Narender Gurung. His defence splitting passes had the JCT team in trouble whenever he combined beautifully with Pradeep Subba and Darbara Singh. The first goal eventually was scored by Subba when he received a pass from Narender Gurung via Darbara Singh. Subba made no mistake and BSF moved into the lead.

But JCT equalised in the 30th minute when right winger Sandeep passed the ball to Satinder and the latter lobbed the ball into the goal.

It was only in the second half that BSF got the match-winner when Pradeep Subba passed the ball to international Darbara Singh whose crashing shot went straight into the goal.

Sujeet Mohanty

AMBALA

Inter-Services Athletics

THE Indian Air Force team did extremely well in the 39th Services Athletics championships with their relay squad comprising Sgts Robert, Sanjeevan, J C Thomas and Cpl Bhanu Parkash setting a new meet record when they timed 42 secs in the 4 x 100m race.

They had further success when Sgt Robert also equalled the 100m record of Central Command's Suoha Singh which was set in 1972. Roberts, who won the 100m title for the third time running, clocked 10.5 secs.

The other meet record was in the pole vault. Sgt Varinder Singh of Uttar Pradesh cleared 4.30m and in the process eclipsed the old record of 4.12m set by Rajbir Singh of Eastern Command.

Parveen Kashyap



Bombay Calling!



Best athletes of the Joe Crasto meet: Fatima Bapai and Brijesh Tripathi

taking the responsibility of his failure in New Zealand, "I brought pressure on myself", he said. He also hinted that



(Left to right) Mike Ferreira, national billiards champion Shandilya and Wilson Jones

with English umpires (meaning neutral umpires) around he could have done better

BOMBAY lost their quarter final Ranji Trophy match against Hyderabad. This meant that the leading cricketers could play in local tournaments. This resulted in some interesting cricket being played.

Sanjay Manjrekar turned out for Mahindras, immediately after he returned from the tour of New Zealand. He hammered a century in the tournament run by his employers for the Mahindra Shield.

Sachin Tendulkar was itching to get to the nets at Shivaji Park but couldn't do so for some reason or the other. He also missed Ravi Shastri's wedding because he had to be in Dhaka, Bangladesh for the Ershad Cup.

Meanwhile, Dilip Vengsarkar has shown signs of maturity by



A unique soccer match was played at Bombay Gymkhana between the staff of the Soviet Consulate and an All Star side to raise funds for AIDS relief. The All Star side had hockey veteran Bomaya, Marcelino Gomes, athlete Capote, veterans Bernard, Franco, Doreyk D'Souza, Henry Menezes and Santosh Keshyap. Sunil Gavaskar (in picture) was there to take a few shots at the goal, and to kick the match off.

AMONG the first things national billiards champion Ashok Shandilya did on coming back to Bombay was to get in touch with Wilson Jones. He managed to convince Mr Jones to coach him.

Wilson Jones has always maintained that some players, like the temperamental Subhash Agrawal, would benefit from tableside advice of a senior player. One hopes Shandilya makes the most of this opportunity.

IT was a fitting tribute to the late Joe Crasto when an inter-school athletics meet was dedicated to him. Even though the exams were approaching, over 750 students participated. Trophies for cycling meets have also been named after the late sportscribe.

By P.V.J. KAR
PHOTOGRAPHS P.V.J. KAR

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

- 1 Who became the first player to score 1000 runs and take 100 wickets in one-day international cricket?
- 2 A Yugoslav goalkeeper who played an European Cup Winners' Cup final for the FRG soccer side Munich 1980, was nicknamed Peter the Great?
- 3 What does the abbreviation 'CABT' stand for?
- 4 Where was Linford Christie, the coloured Olympian sprinter of the UK, born?
- 5 Which Romanian woman set up the mile record in the early Eighties?
- 6 Who is the youngest ever Olympic 200m (men's) medalist?
- 7 With which sport is the term "three-sixteenth pole" connected?
- 8 Name a famous English County cricket club whose name means "a four-wheel two-seated, horse-drawn pleasure carriage"

ANSWERS

- 1 Ian Botham (in June, 1985)
- 2 Peter Radenkovic
- 3 Confederacao Brasileira de Atletismo (The governing body for athletics in Brazil)
- 4 St Andrews Jamaica
- 5 Maricica Puica
- 6 Dwayne Evans who was 17 when he won the bronze in 1976
- 7 Horse racing
- 8 Surrey

CHESS

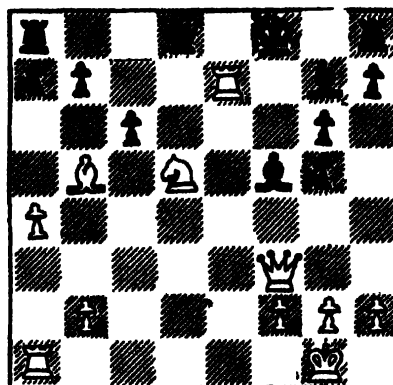
Correspondence players are a breed apart. There are no time scrambles or frenetic bursts of energy required as in "Over the board" games. Instead there are long hours, even days spent analysing every single move. Also a great deal of patience is required to sustain interest in a game for months. They tend to be experts at concrete analysis so C C games are usually out throat theoretical struggles.

White, Nordstrom Vs Black Svennerstedt, Swedish CC '67
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 g6 4 c3

Bg7 5 d4 Qb6 6 a4 c4 7 O-O d5. In this line of the Rossolimo Sicilian White sacrifices a pawn for quick development. In the stem game Bronstein Vs Geller (55) black went for the e-pawn with 7...a6 8 Bxc6 Qxc6 9 c4 Qxe4 10 Nc3 Qf5 11 Re1 d5 12 a5 Bd7 13 Qb3 Nf6 14 Re5 Qd3 15 Rxe7+Kxe7 16 Nxd5+Nd5 17 Qxd3 (1-0) and lost in spectacular fashion.

8 Nxc3 Nf6 9 e5 Ng4 10 Nd5 Qd8 11 Bg5! Already white has tremendous compensation for his pawn. Black loses the queen if he plays 11...O-O? 12 Bxc6 bxc6 13 Nxe7+Kxh8 14 Nxe5, so he is trapped in the centre. 11...Ng4-xe5 12 Re1! f6 This horrible move is forced. 13 Nxe5 fg5 If 13...Nxe5 14 Rxe5! 15 Bxe7 Qa5 16 b4 traps the queen. However 13...fe5! may offer some resistance. 14 Nxc6 d6 15 Rxe7+Kf8 16 Qf3+Bf5 (See Diagram) This is a deceptive position. White is behind in material and three pieces are hanging. But 17 Qa3! Kg8 18 Nf6+! (1-0) Now if 18...Bxf6 19 Bc4+Kf8 20 Rf7+Kg8 21 Rd7+ leads to mate.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Faith in others, they say, is the hallmark of saints and fools! When former world champions Cristian Mari of France and Bobby Goldman of USA crossed swords at London's prestigious 'Sunday Times Invitational' last January, Goldman made Mari look like a fool.

Dealer South

Both vul

NORTH (dummy)

♠ Q J 5
♥ A 10 4
♦ 9 8 4
♣ A 10 8 3

WEST

♠ 8 7 3
♥ K Q J 6 3
♦ 10 7 3
♣ K 5

EAST

♠ 10 9 8 2
♥ 8 6 2
♦ A J 8 2
♣ 1 9

SOUTH

♠ A K 4
♥ 9 7
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q 7 6 4 2

Mari, South, opened a slightly shaded one no-trump (15-17) and was raised to three. West led hearts, declarer winning the third round, pitching a spade from hand. Many players would now have played the club ace to go down as West would be able to get in with the club king but Mari was not a world champion for nothing. He analysed that if East had the diamond ace he needed four club tricks without West getting in and additionally if West had the diamond ace he required five club tricks for which he needed to find East with the singleton club jack.

To take care of both situations, Mari came to hand in spades and led the club queen. As one can see, this ensures the contract on the layout for West cannot afford not to cover and when he covers, declarer wins the ace, gives up a club to East's jack, wins the spade return and dislodges the diamond ace before his third spade winner is knocked out. However, something strange happened, when South led the club queen, it went king, ace, jack! With his prayers seemingly answered, Mari now seemed to have five club tricks with the help of a marked finesse against West's nine of clubs and so did not require the diamond ace to be rightly placed. He naturally came up to hand with a second spade and led a second club to dummy's eight. Opps, East, Goldman, produced the nine, the card he was not supposed to hold! Now, with his diamond ace still intact, Goldman played back the third spade to set up his last spade as the fifth defensive trick to set the game.

Sentamu Ghose

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

IN the final two-punch, one-kick routine, we're going to discuss two straight punches followed by a *hiza-giri* (the knee kick)

Starting off from *ku mite dachi* (the fighting stance), throw a straight punch with the left hand. Flick the hand back even as you throw a straight punch with the right hand. Then using the forward momentum created by the second punch deliver a knee kick to your opponent's solar plexus or lower rib region.



While *kumite* (sparring) doesn't allow you to hold the opponent's neck or shoulders, *hiza giri* used in self defence should be performed by grabbing your assailant by the neck or shoulders and pulling him down even as you jerk the knee into his mid section.

This combination is especially useful when the two punches have failed to push your opponent back.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkai-kan karate
PHOTO: SHAFI HAMAN DHALLA

Throw a straight punch with the left hand



Then deliver a *hiza-giri* with the right leg



Follow it up with a straight punch with the right hand



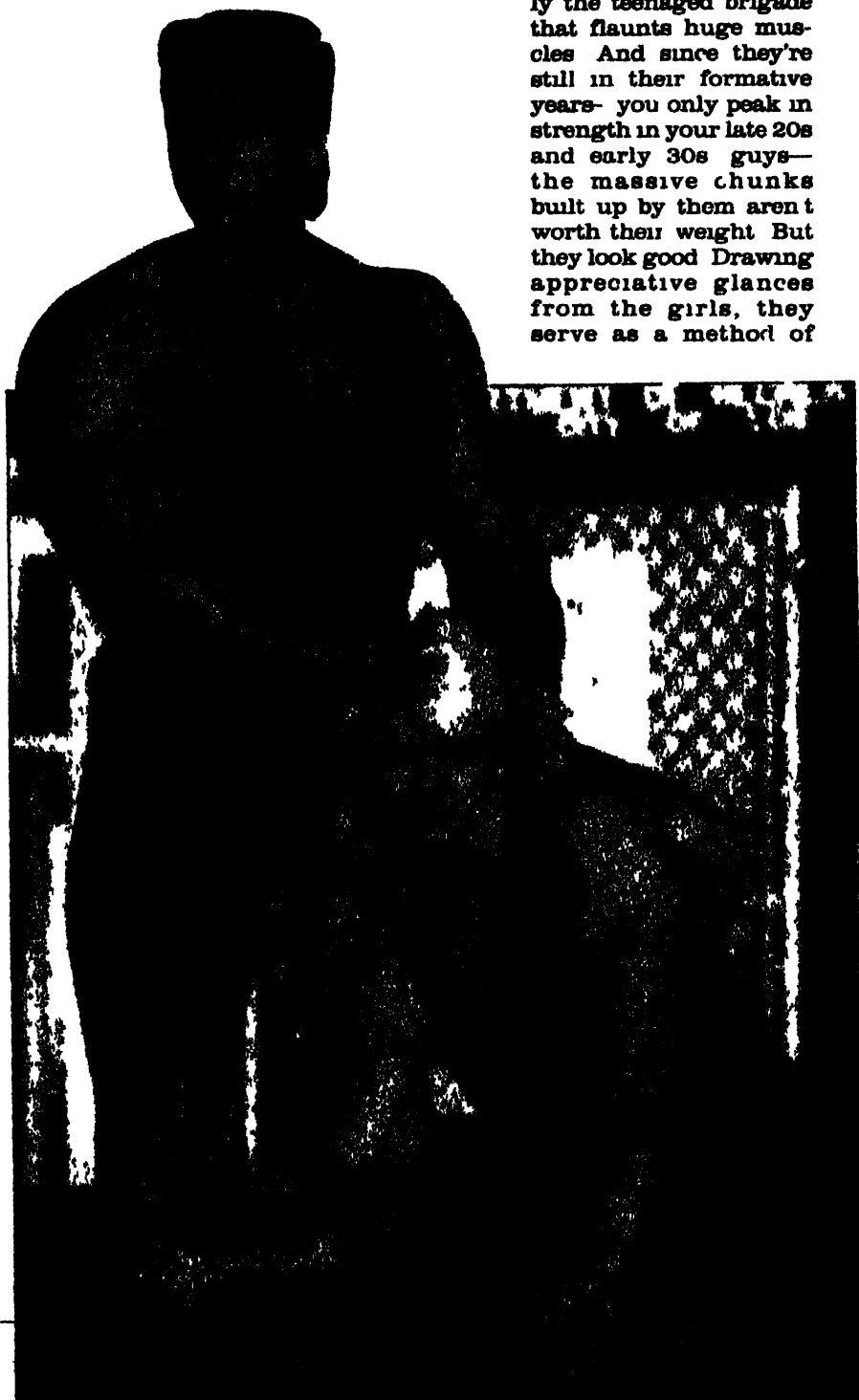
Quantity vs. Quality

THIS week we're going to discuss the quandary of one particular fitness maniac. Ample muscled in his teenage days, he's lost quite a bit of the bulk now that he's knocking on 30's door. But the frame is still there. Covered with a layer of muscle that doesn't announce itself in blinking neon. While friends keep accusing him of having become thin, he's quite unconcerned. As he sees it, he's substituting quantity with quality.

There are many among us—especially the younger lot—who believe that muscles should be big. Otherwise they just aren't muscles, right? These are the guys who like to roll up their sleeves and strut. And then there are some of us who are looking for an overall standard of fitness that doesn't lay so much emphasis on muscle. Of course, they've got to be there. But in a subdued sense. There's no compulsion for the triceps to spring to attention every time you twist your wrist to catch the time.

Where do you fit in? Are you into fitness just for the look—that means muscles, muscles and more muscles, regardless of whether they're much good in the qualitative sense. Or are you satisfied with just enough to get the job done well.

As we see it, it's mostly the teenaged brigade that flaunts huge muscles. And since they're still in their formative years— you only peak in strength in your late 20s and early 30s—guys—the massive chunks built up by them aren't worth their weight. But they look good. Drawing appreciative glances from the girls, they serve as a method of



announcing strength and power.

Our friend, on the other hand, seems to have graduated from

usually going to turn chunky and make you look plain stocky. There's another danger: build massive shoulders,

Altering his workouts—he's concentrating more on aerobic exercise now—he's trimmed off all the fat that was slowly but surely accumulating around his midriff. Unfortunately, with that also came off the bulk from his upper body and arms, making him seem almost thin in comparison to what he was before.

But that's been compensated by light workouts with weights: pumping the muscles regularly to keep them

strong. And the net result has been quite impressive. While he's not a walking advertisement for a gym anymore, he's about the fittest guy around for his age. No paunch, no love handles, and for the first time in his life, he's started carving his abs into well-defined slabs. As he approaches 30!

So there you are! If you're not into top-notch bodybuilding or some other sport that requires mass, it might be worth your while to think about substituting quality for quantity as you get older. Otherwise, you'll just be asking for trouble.

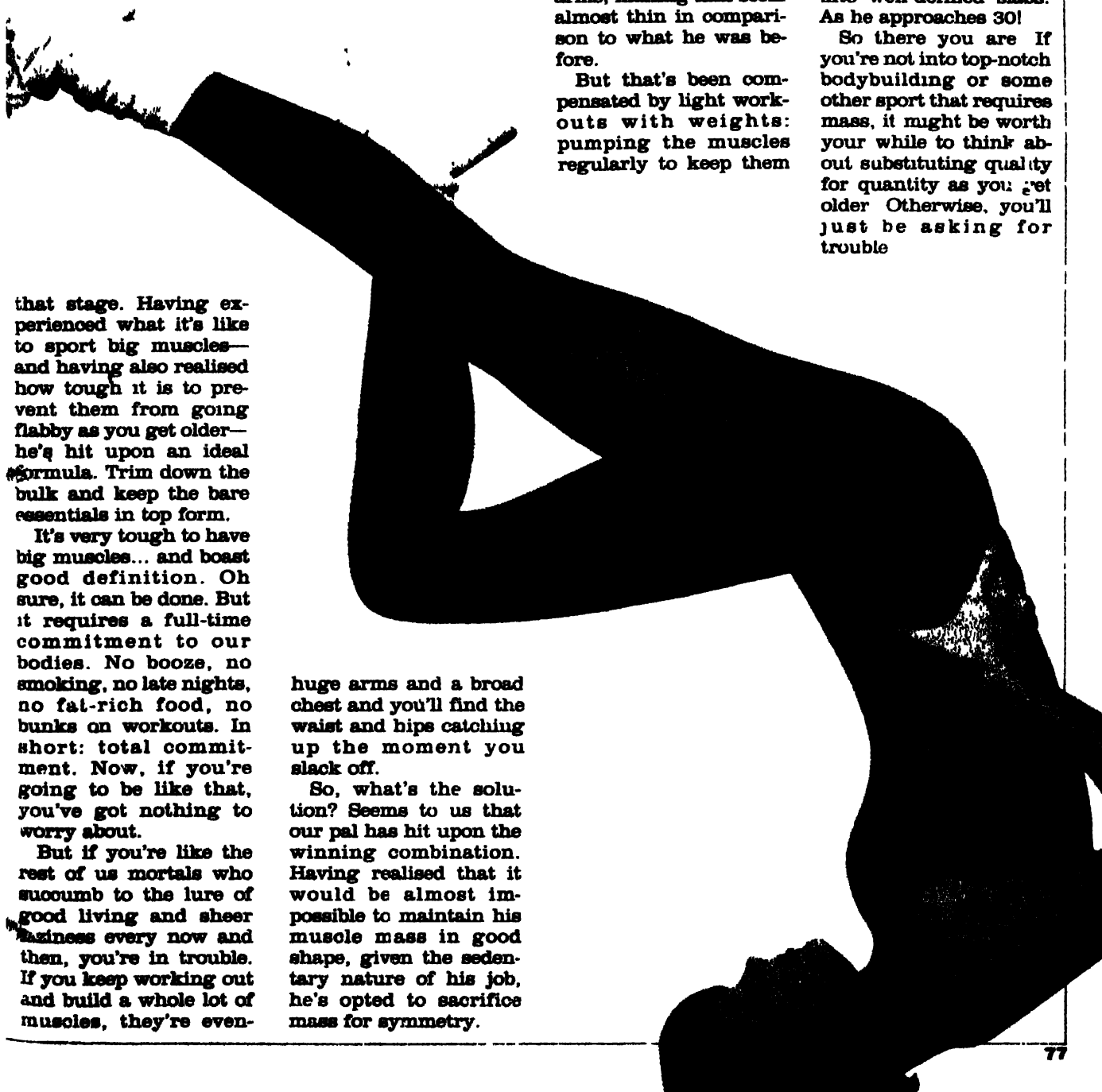
that stage. Having experienced what it's like to sport big muscles—and having also realised how tough it is to prevent them from going flabby as you get older—he's hit upon an ideal formula. Trim down the bulk and keep the bare essentials in top form.

It's very tough to have big muscles... and boast good definition. Oh sure, it can be done. But it requires a full-time commitment to our bodies. No booze, no smoking, no late nights, no fat-rich food, no bunks on workouts. In short: total commitment. Now, if you're going to be like that, you've got nothing to worry about.

But if you're like the rest of us mortals who succumb to the lure of good living and sheer laziness every now and then, you're in trouble. If you keep working out and build a whole lot of muscles, they're even-

huge arms and a broad chest and you'll find the waist and hips catching up the moment you slack off.

So, what's the solution? Seems to us that our pal has hit upon the winning combination. Having realised that it would be almost impossible to maintain his muscle mass in good shape, given the sedentary nature of his job, he's opted to sacrifice mass for symmetry.



JENNIFER

A Historic Pro Debut

AT 28 years old and ranked No. 110 in the world, Mary Lou Daniels feels neither embarrassed nor despondent in describing herself as 'in the way out'. Yet, despite having journeyed through a decade of razmatazz on the women's circuit, it took one

reverence. But neither could really be blamed—Chris Evert has gone, Navratilova is no home grown Yankee hero and the rest of the Stars and Stripes girls are merely fringe players. The evolution of Capriati as a genuine world class player is what the U.S.A has been

searching and sweating for, for God knows how many years. Americans love champions, especially they're own champions, and here they had one. That was enough license to go quite berserk.

So what if the 5,400 crowd booed the photographers, this was slice of history not to be missed. Who

knows a portrait taken, or a quote taped, may become archival material. In 1998, should Capriati decide on an autobiography, they would come in use.

Look at it another way then—not yet 14, Capriati's \$5.5 million contracts with Diadora and Prince made her the third most endorsed woman player

There was chaos at the Virginia Slims of Florida last fortnight and it was not without reason. Jennifer Capriati was making her professional debut. "She's a killer, make no mistake about that", said Jennifer's father. And he was right. The 13 years and 11 months old prodigy ripped through the draw to become the youngest player to contest a pro final.

glance at the hype and hoopla surrounding Jennifer Capriati's professional debut for Daniels to sigh, 'this is mind boggling'.

Daniels was really speaking off the thronging horde of photographers, seemingly magnetised to the 13 years 11 months old Capriati, and the pressmen who diligently noted every childish word with



CAPRIATI



Not yet 14, Capriati's \$5.5 million contracts with Diadora and Prince made her the third most endorsed woman player after Evert and Martina. And that too without playing a pro tournament. Jesus!

Evert On Capriati

I never get tired of hearing people compare Jennifer with me. She's like a little sister or daughter to me. I'm so proud of her. And besides Jennifer and I aren't competitors. I don't have to live in her shadow, and now that I've retired, she doesn't have to live in mine either.

after Evert and Navratilova. And that too without playing a pro tournament. Jesus. Perhaps the hype was understandable to a certain extent.

In quite another sense of course, Mary Lou Daniels' uttering of 'mind boggling' was well spoken. For little Miss Capriati displayed that the adulation was not without reason. That she had the requisite class she was credited with. And she proved it by ripping through the draw to become the youngest ever to contest a professional tournament final—only Gabriela Sabatini, once a whiz kid herself, put an end to the carnival with a straight sets victory.

Capriati's mark of a champion is her ability not to get rattled by absolutely anything. She shops like a 13 year old, giggles like a 13 year old and drools over Tom Cruise like a 13 year old. But her on court maturity and awareness of her skills was perhaps even reason why the Women's International Tennis Association bent their rules for her—normally

COLLEGEPORT

TOMMY HADLEY

Kathy Rinaldi, 22
Age Turned Pro: 14
Years on Tour: 1981-90
Career Won-Loss: 224-140
Tournaments Won: 2

COLLEGEPORT

Andrea Sanchez, 18
Age Turned Pro: 14
Years on Tour: 1986-90
Career Won-Loss: 112-61
Tournaments Won: 3

THE YOUNG PR

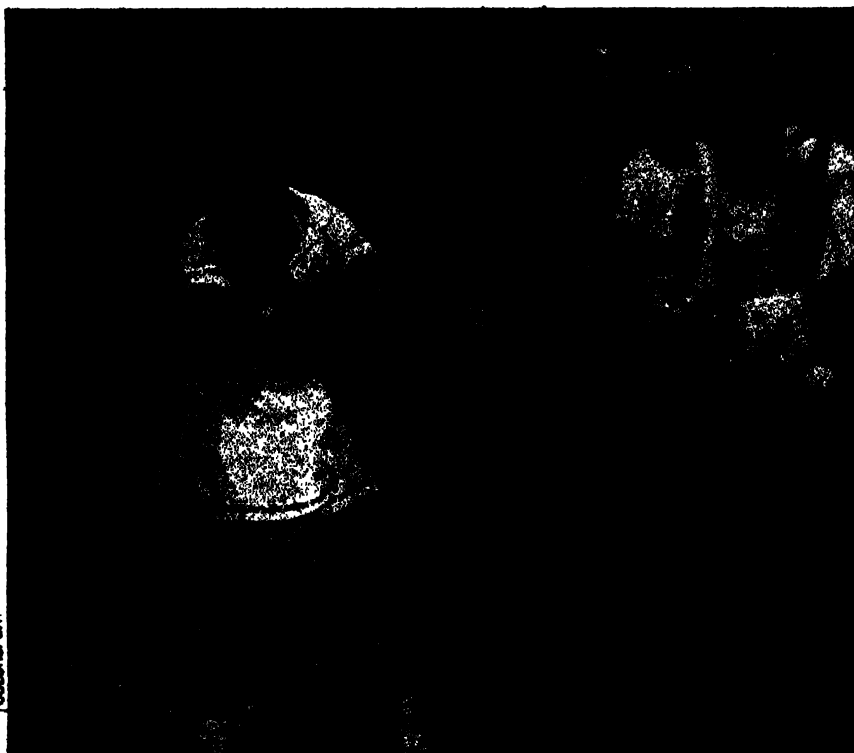
professional debuts are only allowed after a girl's 14th birthday.

It was also a maturity reflected in her first match against Daniels—her mother had

developed a stiff neck from nervous tension, her father's eyes were bloodshot after a sleepless night, but Capriati, whose strokeplay has been compared with Evert's, displayed some

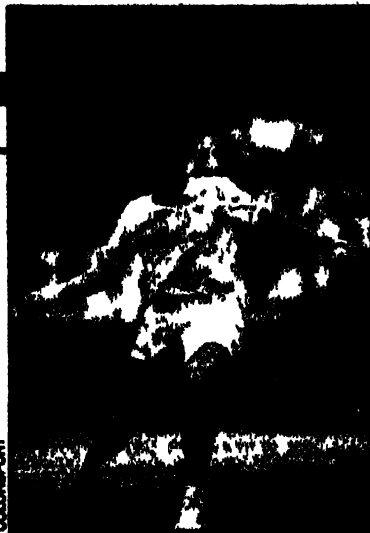
of the grand old lady's unflappable demeanour also. Serving at an incredible 95 miles an hour, she reduced Daniels to becoming the first statistic in what will and must be an awesome career.

After she had manhandled 10th seed Laura Gildemesiter 7-6, 7-6 and then the tough Helena Sukova 6-1, 6-4, another championship trait became blatantly





Andrea Jaeger, 24
 Age Turned Pro: 14
 Age Retired: 29
 Years on Tour: 1980-84
 Career Won-Loss: 260-85
 Tournaments Won: 9



Steffi Graf, 28
 Age Turned Pro: 13
 Years on Tour: 1982-90
 Career Won-Loss: 368-55
 Tournaments Won: 46



Tracy Austin, 27
 Age Turned Pro: 15
 Age Retired: 21
 Years on Tour: 1978-83
 Career Won-Loss: 337-71
 Tournaments Won: 32

PROFESSIONALS

obvious her ability to play the important points well. When questioned on this, she replied "I think it's just something I was born with or it's just natural. I don't train to do it."

Capriati's precocity not surprisingly raised queries on burn-out, Tracy Austin and Andrea Jaeger being touted as comparable examples. But Howard Moore, director of the Hopman tennis school where Capriati trains, dismissed this. "Jennifer's not one of those girls who's 13 going on 30. She's kind of raw. In fact she doesn't remind me of any other player except

Jimmy Connors. She's got the same love of the game, of performing. I don't see her being the type to burn out." From Chris Evert to Martina Navratilova to Billie Jean King,

everyone is convinced that Capriati has what it takes to be the best. As Richard Schonbron, a German Tennis Federation talent hunter said, "Jennifer is going to be No. 1 in the world after Graf."



Tracy Austin On Capriati

She seems to have a good attitude. She looks like a very cute girl with a sweet personality and excited about life, and it's nice to see. It's a special time that's for sure, the start of something new and beautiful. Really, the sky's the limit for her.

She is much better at 13 than Steffi and has excellent strokes and motivation. By the time Steffi is 26 and Jennifer is 19 something will definitely happen.

Jennifer is unmoved. All she says is, 'I'm having a whole heap of fun.' The women on the circuit aren't laughing for sure.

A Correspondent

"Kya mujhse nautanki kar vaoge?" asked Kapil Dev amused I was suggesting that since the *Sportsworld* stock of offbeat colour transparencies of his had depleted, we needed to shoot something different. So if he wore my \$22 hat, which I had picked up in Barbados last year, his black anti-glare and slipped into a T-shirt with anything scrawled across, my Kodak K 80 would register just the pictures *Sportsworld's* cover needed.

Kapil obliged. He hobbled across to the bathroom where the lighting was better (this after his *bhaashan* the previous day about his fitness!), posed like a liar (i.e. superbly) while my amateur fingers consumed exposure after exposure.

This sequence took place in Dhaka on 18/19 March. Kapil was going to be there for 3 days and it made more sense to fly east than intercepting the all rounder in Bombay or Delhi. Besides a match in Dhaka interested me for more reasons than one, the unbelievably large crowds that attended the Asia Cup in 1988 convinced many observers that this was going to be the Sharjah of the Nineties, the near warlike conditions between India and Pakistan over Kashmir made one wonder whether any tension would spill into the game in Bangladesh. I mentioned this to Imran on the flight to Dhaka. He pooh poohed my fears, but here I presumed that his being absent in Australia, while India and Pakis-

freewheeling

tan reached their most serious crisis in 20 years, was responsible for the underreaction I told him that as things stood, the countries had played the last of each other in the subcontinent. I did a recap of the sequence of events that started with the assault on Srikanth in Karachi for Imran to interrupt. "And yet, mind you, that series between India and Pakistan was quite a peaceful one. Imagine what would have happened had we not had neutral umpires. You must also not forget that stone-throwing in Karachi and Sialkot is nothing new. Even 20 years ago there used to be ethnic trouble of some kind or the other at the ground in Karachi, while at Sialkot even we

had not been spared." Even though one did concede that the ethnic hiccups in Karachi and Sialkot were nothing new, Imran had overlooked an important point that violence often works on the principle of the hydraulic press—a little pressure goes a long way. As it turned out, the humiliation that the Indian cricketers faced was magnified when it turned up for breakfast readership the next morning. And, as a result, we had Indians swearing that Pakistan's sportsmen would not get away the next time they came to India. "Maybe the 2 captains may have to issue some joint statement or the other promoting the cause of peace before the Sharjah tournament."



said Imran.

"But talking of the media," he added, "the reception we got in the papers in Australia was plain hostile. I couldn't understand it. Perhaps attitudes are changing the world over. In fact, I will go to the extent of saying that we have always faced a better press in India than this time in Australia. How does one explain that?"

I hoped to pick up the threads of this conversation with Imran on landing. But he had vanished, from his executive class seat (always front row extreme left, closest to the door, while the Indians were scattered in the economy) he had been whisked off as soon as he set foot on the tarmac. I hoped to catch up with him in the VIP lounge while the passports awaited the immigration 'chhap', but here again while the Indian players sat cornered for 45 minutes, Imran had been ushered beyond the reach of the uniformed bureaucracy. Visa or no visa.

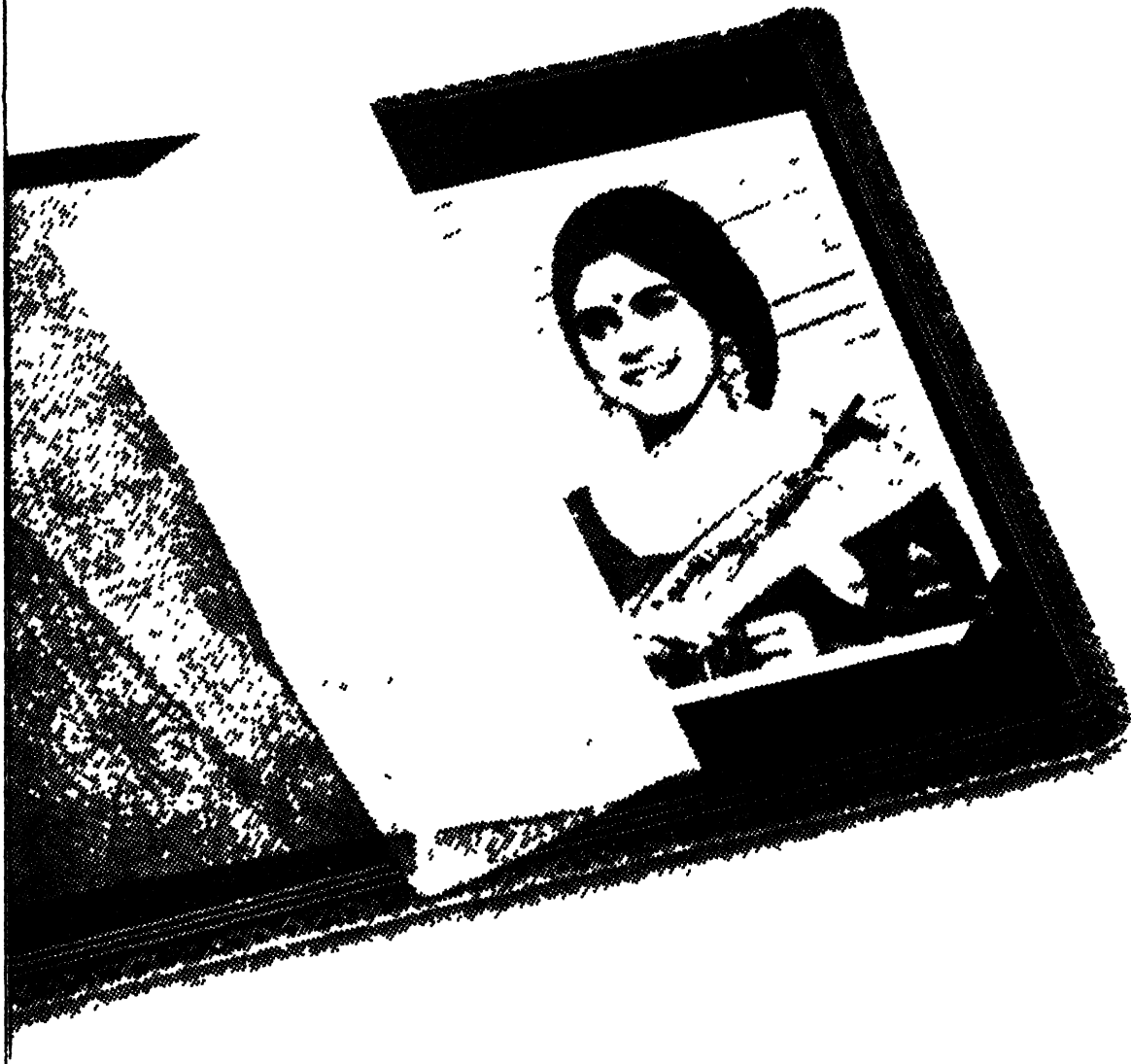
The match in Dhaka was in a sense, a disappointment. Pakistan turned up with Salim Yousuf as its most experienced player after Imran, the stadium stayed half-empty, the heat was killing, the press boycotted the match. Undeterred, the organisers netted a cool Rs 45 lakhs (one hears).

I don't know who won. I ran off to be back in my hotel room for the afternoon snooze—and over slept.

Mudar Patherya

PS Azhar's XI beat Imran's XI by 1 run—Editor

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